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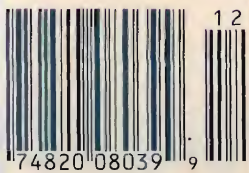
**M1A-A1 BUSH
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CHRISTMAS SPECIALS FROM NITRO-PAK



TO ALL OUR LOYAL CUSTOMERS AND ASG FRIENDS,

Christmas time is always a special time of year. It's also a time to reflect back on the past year and to set goals for the coming new year. In light of that reflection, we hope you'll seriously take a moment and look at today's sobering headlines. Without a doubt, we live in extremely volatile and uncertain times, i.e., the Persian Gulf Crisis, the deepening recession, rising prices & unemployment, drought conditions, the S&L and Banking crisis (collapse), and the increasing frequency natural disaster such as earthquakes, floods & hurricanes, etc., etc.

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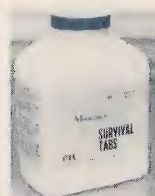


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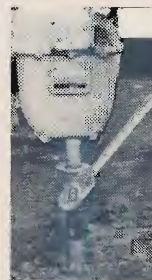
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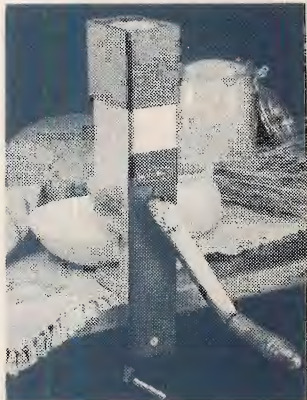


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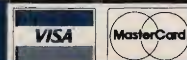
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AMERICAN SURVIVAL

The Magazine of Self Reliance

GUIDE

DECEMBER 1990 VOLUME 12 NUMBER 12

COVER:
Springfield Armory's M1A-A1 Bush Rifle: a compact, lighter weight M14 variant. See page 24 (Photos, by Scott Stoddard). Inset: hypothermia: insidious killer. See page 26.

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TO THE POINT

Gun ownership and the 'liberal' perspective. . .

OVER the past year we've seen the continued rising fortunes of the "gun control" forces in society. As we near the end of 1990 it may be worthwhile to take another look at the people behind the anti-gun-ownership movement.

Many of the same politicians and groups clamoring for tight restrictions on law-abiding gun ownership and, ultimately, the elimination of private gun ownership, are the same people who have been demanding large cuts in defense spending, promoting big government, and fawning over communist leaders around the world.

Needless to say, our national media give a lot of attention to these people. Gun control and leftist politics go hand in hand, of course, and our strongly left-wing media types never miss an opportunity to propagandize for their pet causes.

Earlier this year we saw the great sages at *Time* magazine call for a 50 percent cut in the defense budget. A 50 percent cutback in our military spending! These are the same people who've called for a nationwide ban on the private possession of handguns.

When Iraq invaded Kuwait last summer the need for a strong U.S. military was once again apparent. We've had to call up reserves to meet the military needs in the Middle East. But before the Iraq matter came up, the hue and cry was seemingly everywhere for big cutbacks in defense. Well, after all, the leftists — uh, excuse me, the "liberals" — in the media and government reasoned, now that our Lord and Savior Mikhail Gorbachev is in power in the Soviet Union, there's no need for the U.S. to have a strong military. I mean, according to the "liberals," Gorbachev is the Savior of all humanity.

Gorbachev's style of socialism is what our leftists ("liberals") have been long awaiting. Here at last, they say, is true liberal communism. We might also call this "democratic socialism," or "communism with a human face." In any event, this stuff is good for humanity, they say.

And isn't it interesting that these same left-wingers in our media and government are also always fawning and gushing over the world's other Marxists leaders: Fidel Castro, Daniel

Ortega, and perhaps the most beloved media Marxist messiah after Gorbachev: Nelson Mandela.

No matter that Mandela and his wife have advocated and seen their supporters carry out the grisly torture murders of political opponents. No matter that he pleaded guilty to acts of sabotage and terrorism against civilian targets in South Africa. No matter that he has stated he plans on classic communist nationalization of business and industry in that country if he becomes its leader. He's one of the world's great leaders, according to his fans in this country.

Wasn't that New Jersey's anti-gun governor, Jim Florio, shown on television standing next to Mandela as he gave a speech in the New York area while visiting this country? Looked like Florio was trying to be seen with the great Mandela. Think what political mileage Florio could gain from that!

Florio has demanded and gotten the nation's toughest restrictions on private firearms ownership and use. Even New Jersey police officers, when they go off duty, must unload rounds from the magazines of their 9 millimeter pistols so they do not contain more than the state mandated 15 rounds.

Makes a lot of sense, doesn't it. But no problem with Florio supporting a man like Mandela, a man once arrested with tons of explosives including hand grenades and land mines.

Is Mandela even the chosen leader of the majority of South African blacks? Some ask. What does that have to do with anything? Our media has chosen him as the real and true leader of all South Africa. The human rights organization Amnesty International refused to classify Mandela as a political prisoner because of his terrorist acts. But so what? Our media and government leftists know better. Mandela was a political prisoner of the racist South African government, they say. In fact, he's "one of the world's greatest living heroes," according to his awestruck admirers at the *Los Angeles Times*.

At this writing the Congress has voted to cut back spending on our Strategic Defense Initiative. We *don't need*

this expensive and unrealistic nuclear missile defense our "liberals" in Congress and the media tell us.

But what about the predictions by those who study world affairs that some 15 third world nations will have nuclear/chemical/biological warfare capabilities by the end of this century? Wouldn't it be prudent to continue with this program, many of the aspects of which have already been tested and proved effective or at least feasible?

Nope, say the leftists. We just *don't need it*.

And why do you suppose it is that so many of these same people are always pushing vigorously to take away the public's guns? You see, they say, we just *don't need* these awful, evil guns! I mean, what in the world do you want with one of those horrible AK-47s or AR-15s? What do you *need* an assault rifle for?

And of course, the people who've been after our handguns all these years are the same ones who now, through their faithful mouthpieces — most of the mass media, are spreading fear and hatred about those supposedly evil assault weapon owners. Assault weapons really make them cringe. Once they get rid of these monstrosities, they can again turn their attention to getting rid of private ownership of all handguns, and eventually, all hunting firearms, since hunting, they insist, is a detestable "blood sport" and should be *banned*.

At this writing Congress and many state and local governments, spurred on by our almighty mass media (our "free press"? What a joke!), are considering legislation to strip us of our guns and/or severely restrict our rights to own and lawfully use guns.

A lot of what happens to us and our gun rights and other freedoms will depend on what we do today and from now on. If we're going to preserve what freedom we have and possibly expand it we're going to need plenty of sheer political muscle. How much of that muscle we have depends on what the gun owners of this country do as a political force. Keep this in mind as we wrap up 1990 and head into 1991 — *Jim Benson*.

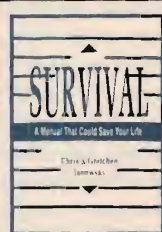
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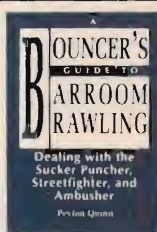
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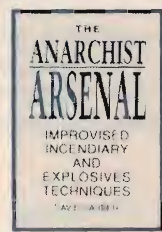
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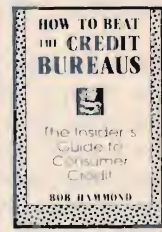
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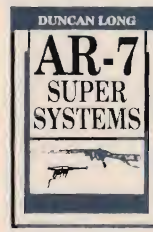
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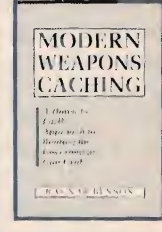
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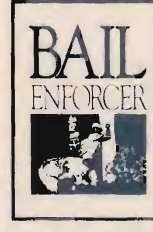
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SURVIVAL LINE

Sports and accidental deaths & injuries, toothbrush use and disease prevention, shooting and lead poisoning. . .

WHICH sport is more dangerous, horseback riding or motorcycling? Surprisingly, according to a new report by the federal Centers for Disease Control, CDC, you have a much greater chance of being injured while riding a horse than you do while riding a motorcycle.

The report was compiled using statistics from the National Electronic Injury Surveillance System for the years 1987 and 1988. It found that during those years, some 92,763 people visited hospital emergency rooms suffering from horseback riding-related injuries. The most common types of injuries were found to be fractures to the upper body, dislocations, and concussions. The report also found that horseback riders suffered about one injury for every 350 hours of riding.

While horseback riding can hurt you, other sports can kill you. A recent report in U.S. News & World Report listed the sports with the highest fatality rates. According to data from the National Safety Council, mountain climbing was found to have the highest fatality rate of any sport — 599 deaths per 100,000 participants. Next dangerous was hang gliding with 114 deaths per 100,000, followed by parachuting — 24, snowmobiling — 13, mountain hiking — 6.4, scuba diving — 2.9, boating — 2.7, and alpine ski racing — 2.5.

Brushing Your Way To Health — Dr. Richard Glass, a researcher at the University of Oklahoma, says to reduce the risk of colds and flu replace your toothbrush every two weeks.

Glass' studies indicate that toothbrushes can transmit the germs which cause colds, flu, sinusitis, bronchitis, and upset stomach. Further, the warm, moist environment of the bathroom, where the toothbrush is stored, is a perfect breeding ground for the bacteria which can cause illness. According to one toothbrush manufacturer, the John O. Butter Company, the average person in the U.S. replaces his toothbrush every nine months. The Academy of General Dentistry suggests

replacing a toothbrush at two- to three-month intervals.

Dr. Glass' suggestions go much farther. Replace the toothbrush every two weeks when you are not sick. When you catch a cold or the flu, replace the toothbrush three times—at the first sign of the illness, when you start feeling better, and again when the illness is gone. He also suggests that patients who have had major surgery replace the toothbrush every day, because during the recovery period susceptibility to infection is high. For patients with immune problems or those undergoing chemotherapy, Glass suggests using a toothbrush for three days before disposing of it.

Shooting And Lead Poisoning — Hunters and target shooters may have a new cause of concern — lead poisoning.

Recent studies of police recruits by epidemiologists in New Mexico and Colorado have found lead levels in their systems to be well above normal. The recruits had their blood lead levels checked prior to beginning firearms training and again at graduation. During their training the recruits averaged one and a half hours a week of firearms practice at both indoor and outdoor ranges. At graduation the recruits were found to have lead levels in their systems some eight times higher than they did prior to beginning firearms training. Researchers attribute the increased lead levels to the microscopic lead dust particles inhaled during target practice.

Lead poisoning is most common among children where it can lead to mental retardation. In adults excessive lead in the system can cause painful joints, lethargy, loss of appetite and other problems. (See ASG October 1989 issue for more information on lead poisoning).

If you shoot frequently researchers suggest using jacketed bullets to reduce your exposure to lead dust. Also, if you shoot at an indoor range, make certain that it has an effective ventilation system. ●

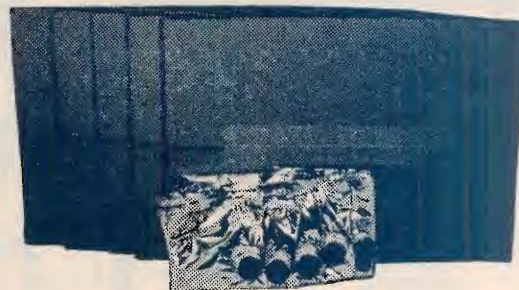
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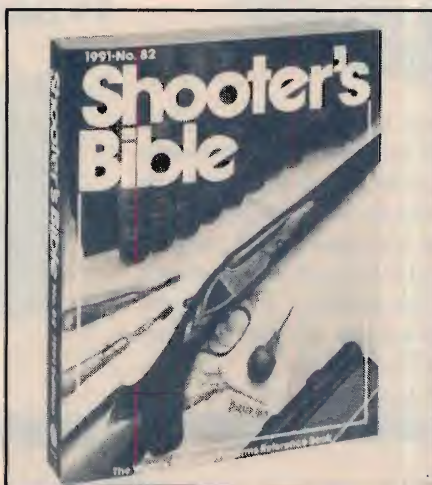
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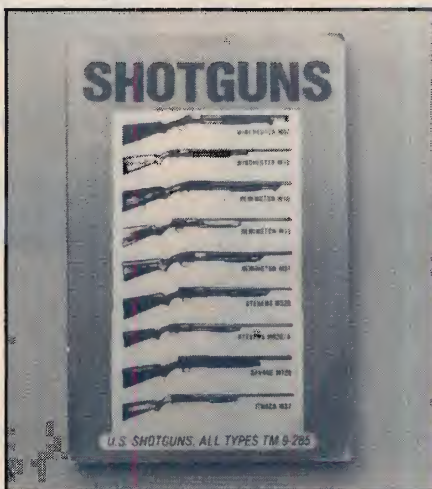
BOOKS/VIDEOS



Shooter's Bible. Stoecker Publishing Company, 55 Ruta Court, South Hackensack, NJ 07606. Available locally at most gun shops. 576 pages, softcover; \$17.95.

The 1991, completely revised and

updated *Shooter's Bible* features over 25,000 items and 8,000 illustrations. The catalog section features the largest, most complete listing of manufacturers' specifications, illustrations and current retail prices in the industry. This section includes all major makes and models, domestic and foreign, of handguns, rifles, black powder guns, shotguns, sights and scopes. The reference section has indispensable information. There is a directory of manufacturers and suppliers, the Gunfinder Index which enables the reader to select and compare specifications and prices of like firearms, and the Caliberfinder, which identifies models by caliber. The other sections offer information on ammunition and ballistics, reloading and gun care accessories, and a feature article section where world famous writers report on products, biographical and historical sketches of interest.



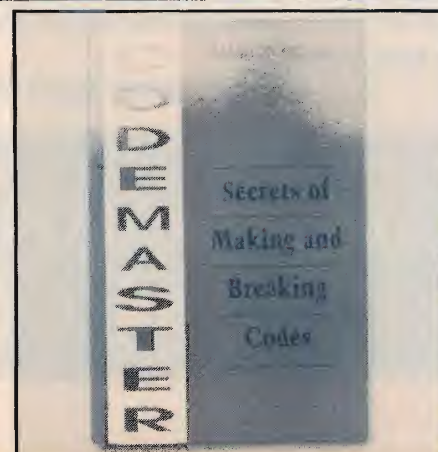
Shotguns, U.S. Shotguns, All types TM 9-285, Desert Publications, available from SI Outdoor Food & Equipment, 435 W. Alondra Blvd., Dept. ASG, Gardena, CA 90248; (213) 324-

8855. 260 pages, softcover. \$9.95 plus \$3 shipping.

A reprint of a government manual that contains information necessary for the identification, operation, care, and cleaning of the shotguns listed below. Additionally included is the disassembly and assembly of the guns for the purpose of cleaning and lubrication, and available information on ammunition. The shotguns covered in this book are: Winchester Repeater 12-Gauge M97, and M12, Stevens Repeater 12-Gauge M620A, M520, and M6220, Ithaca Repeater 12-Gauge M37, Remington Repeater 12 Gauge M10, and M31, Remington Auto-loading 12 Gauge M11, and Sportsman Model, and lastly the Savage Auto-loading 12 Gauge M720. Contains plenty of illustrations for easy parts identification and disassembly procedures.

Codemaster, Secrets of Making and Breaking Codes, by Hamilton Nickels. Paladin Press, P.O. Box 1307, Dept. ASG, Boulder, CO 80306; (303) 443-7250. 144 pages, softcover. \$16 plus \$3.50 shipping and handling.

Codes or ciphers have been around since humans first began to communicate and had secrets to keep — secrets of state, war, business, or the heart. As soon as the first secret message was sent, others were busy at work trying to decipher it. By rearranging, substituting, or transposing symbols,



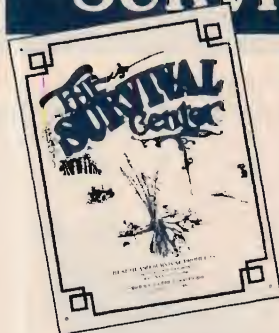
any message can be encoded or decoded, if you know how. *Codemaster* is a practical field manual designed to teach the combat and survival professional the basic mechanics of enciphering and deciphering communications. This hands-on English language guide contains the simplest cipher schemes and also state-of-the-art computer-based systems used by the military and diplomatic corps of most governments. Programs for the IBM/PC and Apple computer are included. Also contains a secret system developed for clandestine use that needs only a \$4.99 calculator.



Communications Equipment of the German Army, 1933-1945, by Charles J. Barger. Paladan Press, P.O. Box 1307, Dept. ASG, Boulder, CO 80306; (303) 443-7250; 180 pages, softcover. \$25 plus \$3.50 shipping.

The communications equipment used by the armies of the Third Reich during World War II is a fascinating subject. Of considerable interest to military historians, collectors and radio enthusiasts, this book is the most comprehensive reference ever published on the tactical field communications equipment used by the German Army between 1933 and 1945. The radio systems shown in this book come from the largest collection in the United States. Because the Allied occupation forces destroyed much of this gear after the fall of the Third Reich, photographs and detailed information are rare. This definitive volume covers field telephones, transmitters, receivers, switchboards, and accessories, including descriptions of specific controls and switches, performance data, and operation instructions for the various models. With this information, you can actually operate a piece of equipment used in the greatest military drama of the 20th century. ●

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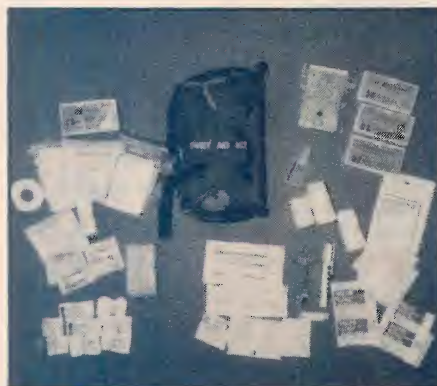
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Staff Report

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Home Testing:

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By Jefferson Bushman

Almost every book which recommends a particular diet starts out with a warning that before beginning the diet, the reader should check with a physician to make certain that the reader's health will not be impaired by the diet.

Virtually no one follows that admonition, and there are few if any reported cases of an individual suffering damage from the diet. The warning is there, anyway, to avoid liability in the event that there is a bad result.

Such a warning is also issued by manufacturers of devices which allow individuals to test themselves for various conditions and/or diseases. But the tests exist, and we should all be aware of what we can screen ourselves for, before — or instead of — going to the doctor.

The type of test which has attracted the most attention recently is pregnancy.

Home pregnancy tests range in price from about \$7 to \$13 and include "Answer," which contains a chemical solution into which is mixed the woman's urine. Within 45 minutes to one

one hour, the color will change if the patient tests positive for pregnancy. The test is useable as early as the first day after the period was due. "Daisy" is another brand which works similarly, as is "EPT" (Early Pregnancy Test).

The same manufacturer makes "EPT Stick," in which a stick is placed into a tube containing the urine and an enzyme solution. If the stick changes color, as described in the package insert, pregnancy is determined.

"Clear Blue Easy" works a bit differently. The stick is held in the day's first urination stream. A positive pregnancy test will react with the chemicals on the stick to change color.

Receiving less publicity is "Alco-Screen," developed by Chem-Elec, and manufactured by Chematics. It is a test to determine levels of alcohol in the blood (and in some other substances). A chemically-treated piece of paper is placed in the mouth of the person to be tested. If the level is above .10 (the measure in most states to determine if a person is driving under the influence of alcohol), the strip changes color. In addition to being useful to a person who wants to know his or her own alcohol level (assuming the person isn't too inebriated to read the results), the device would be helpful to hosts of parties where alcoholic substances are served. By using the test, the party-giver can tell who's not sufficiently sober to drive home. In many states, a social host who allows a drunk guest to leave and drive, can be liable for anyone the driver injures. More information and the products are available by calling the company at (800) 348-5174.

The company is also developing home cholesterol testing devices, and has one now for pharmacies and other organizations for screening. It will also be seeking Food and Drug Administration approval for a home test for cholesterol, though it was not yet doing so at this



writing. The one which the company is making available to pharmacies will separate the red blood cells (previously not possible without a centrifuge) and will provide a cholesterol reading in numbers which can be provided to a physician, if cholesterol is at a high level.

Though there is controversy among medical authorities about what levels of blood cholesterol are too high (some say that above 180 dl is dangerous while others are unconcerned unless the number is above 220), there is no question that knowledge on the part of the person being tested is valuable.

Another company has been seeking FDA approval for a home cholesterol test. CytrxBioPool of Norcross, Georgia, was seeking consent to market a test which will be sold for about \$4 and will provide a result about four hours after a blood sample is used with the product.

Heart attacks and strokes have killed and disabled millions of Americans over the years. One reliable guide to risk levels, in addition to high cholesterol levels, is elevated blood pressure. Testing devices range from about \$15 to \$200.

Nelkin-Piper of Kansas City, Missouri, distributes a blood pressure and pulse monitor called "Homecare Clinic," which contains an LCD readout of the tests' results. It costs about \$15. No stethoscope or other equipment is needed, and it doesn't require a second person to conduct the test. In addition to providing the obvious, necessary information, such tests may be more reliable than the same tests taken in a physician's office. Many patients who are tested in a doctor's examination room are nervous about the test and about visiting a physician. Such nervousness often provides falsely high results, and may result in medication when none is truly required.

One ailment that has long been the subject of self-testing is diabetes. For the diabetic to be properly cared for, physicians have recommended self-testing, to monitor the blood sugar level in the body.

In addition to the generally well known test tapes which are dropped into the urine, there are now self-administered blood tests which show the level of sugar by the depth of color change. This is designed to help the patient report to the doctor, so the levels of insulin needed to control the blood sugar level can be adjusted.

Breast cancer kills about 42,000

Americans per year. Thousands more live through the disease, after one or more efforts to defeat it, which may include surgery, radiation and or chemotherapy. The earlier the ailment is detected, the better the chances for survival, and the less extreme will be the measures necessary to eradicate it. As an illustration, if the malignant lump is found early in the progress of the disease, a relatively minor surgery, sometimes referred to as a "lumpectomy," can remove all of the cancer. Further progressed breast cancer may require the removal of one or both breasts and lymphatic tissue.

An Illinois company, Inventive Products, has developed "Sensor Pad." It is a rubber-like device filled with liquid silicon. Similar to a balloon filled with soapy water, objects felt through it are sensed as larger than they are. As a result, lumps which are small enough to be missed during ordinary breast self-examinations will be detected with the device, according to its manufacturer. When that occurs, the woman will seek an exam before the cancer has progressed as far as it would have otherwise.

Miles Labs produces a test available for about \$3.50 which will test for bladder infections, experienced by many women, with varying degrees of frequency. Bacteria which cause bladder infections change *nitrites*, which are normally found in the urine, into *nitrates*. The test determines whether nitrates are present in the tested urine (normally, urine contains no nitrates). Like pregnancy tests, "Micro-Stix" will change colors if a bladder infection is present.

Another health area that has caused some concern is cancer of the stomach, colon, and bowel. When former President Ronald Reagan had surgery to remove a cancerous growth in his stomach, everyone became stomach-cancer conscious. A number of companies rushed to market with tests to find what is referred to as "occult" (hidden) blood in the stomach. Among the devices were "Hemocult" and "Early Detector," which cost about \$6 per test and involve placing a stool sample into the test unit with a chemical designed to react to the presence of blood which cannot be seen with the naked eye. A less unpleasant type of test was developed by two other companies. "E-Z Detect" by NMS Pharmaceuticals, and Helena Laboratories' "Colo-Screen Self-Test," each of which was made available for about \$7 and allowed the user to drop a pad into the

commode; the pad would — also by a change in color — show any presence of blood. These tests, however, have not been a huge success for several reasons. First, positive consumer reaction was not present in sufficient numbers. Second, there were many "false positives," that is, test results that showed the presence of blood in the stool, when there was none. Factors other than cancer — bleeding gums, eating red meat, consuming iron supplements, and the presence of non-malignant tumors — could cause a positive result.

Most of the manufacturers have stopped making the products available through pharmacies, but many still distribute through physicians, who presumably will instruct patients to not eat red meat, take iron supplements, or do anything else the night before the test that could cause a false positive. In the future, a test which will produce more consistently accurate results may be marketed.

AIDS — What about AIDS? It seems strange in view of the attention that this killer disease has received, but there is no self-test presently being marketed. Part of the reason is the FDA. The president of one corporation, Universal Hospital Laboratories, aired his lament in the *Wall Street Journal*. He pointed out that his company had developed such a test. Previously, the FDA had been reluctant to approve an AIDS home test because of the need for counseling in the event of a positive result. The company had established a procedure for initial phone counseling and follow-up in the event of a positive result. The patient would send the blood sample to the lab anonymously (thus insuring privacy, another concern with any AIDS testing), and could, by providing her/his identification number, obtain the results. The lab would use the same blood testing that physicians and standard labs use. The FDA delayed a decision for well over a year, thus depleting the resources of the company, which then went out of business.

There can be no question that the current market in home-testing devices is large and profitable. Current sales amount to about \$500 million per year. It is estimated that by the year 1995, the figure will reach \$2 billion annually. In addition to more people buying the existing tests, other types of tests will become available. Now in development are several other types of self-screening devices.

Self Doctoring

Unless a cure or vaccine for AIDS is discovered, we might see a home testing device for the presence of the virus which causes the ailment, although no test is known to be currently in development.

Also, two companies are seeking FDA approval for tests for strep throat. Other conditions for which you will someday be able to test yourself include thyroid problems and allergies.

Whether it's to have a better idea of our current physical conditions, or to monitor our health in locations or conditions where physicians are unavailable, self-testing devices are important, not only for our physical health, but for our psychological and emotional well-being also. By monitoring our present health, and taking care of whatever problems may exist, we insure our healthful existence and the ability to see our progeny grow to maturity. These devices, therefore, are vital in today's environment and are likely to become more so, in the days ahead. ●



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Marine Raider Stiletto shown actual size.
Overall Length: 12"
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A Special Note to Collectors:

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Staff Report

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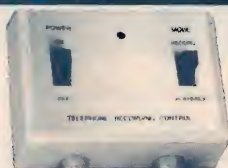
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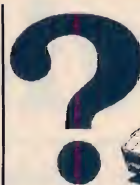
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Staff Report

The Ek Bowie from Ek Commando Knives is the company's best-selling knife, and it's small wonder with the model's outstanding features. Thicker steel, a taper grind, shallow clip, skull crusher pommel, a choice of handles in Ek's ergonomic style, full

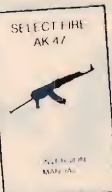
tang construction and an Ek Systems sheath highlight this rendition of the classic Bowie style.

Prices range from \$129 for a Paragrip to \$179 for black Micarta. Overall length is 13 inches. Blade length is 6³/₁₆ inches and the blade has a Rockwell hardness of C57-59. The blade has thicker steel for added strength and its high carbon stainless steel is heat treated to 1,950 degrees F., then plung-

ed to 120 degrees F. below freezing to retain a razor edge. Be it a military maneuver in distant lands, a SWAT operation in the streets, or a hunting trip in the wilds, the Ek Bowie is custom built to fit your needs. For more information contact: Ek Commando Knife Company, Dept. ASG, 601 North Lombardy Street, Richmond, VA 23220; (804) 257-7272; toll free orders: (800) 468-5575. ●



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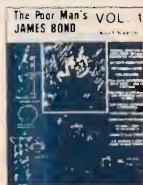


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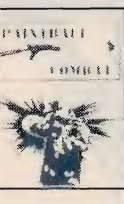


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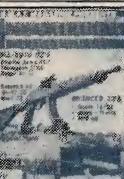
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Springfield Armory:

M1A-A1

A shortened, carbine-like edition of the venerable M14 military rifle...

Bush Rifle



The Springfield Bush Rifle has slightly more recoil and muzzle rise when fired than its longer M1A siblings but shooters found virtually no difference in accuracy.

By Jim Benson

SPRINGFIELD Armory's superb M1A rifle, regarded by many as the premier civilian version of the military's M14 rifle, is available in a number of different styles to meet the needs and desires of shooters.

Besides the standard M1A which is essentially military specification, there are the M1A match rifles ranging from the National Match to the top-of-the-line Super Match. Then there is the M1A-A1 Bush Rifle, shorter barreled and slightly lighter than the standard military specification M1A.

The M1A-A1 is a popular choice where rifle length and weight are key considerations and the powerful .308

caliber cartridge is still desired. For hunters who must haul their rifles around in the bush all day, the M1A-A1 has considerable appeal.

The M1A-A1 comes with the standard M1A walnut stock—or, if you prefer, with optional Springfield fiberglass stock—and all of its parts are interchangeable with other M1A and M14 semiautomatic rifles. But the barrel is about 4 inches shorter, at 18¾ inches, than the standard M1A barrel, and the rifle weighs about 3 ounces less than the standard M1A.

The effect of this more compact packaging of M14 is to give the rifle a carbine-like appearance and feel. There is slightly more recoil, muzzle rise and, possibly, noise experienced when firing the M1A-A1 but these factors are of minimal significance when compared with the greater ease of handling

(Continued on page 62)



The two touching hits on this target show the inherent accuracy of the Bush Rifle. This group was obtained shooting prone with a rest from 100 yards.



Here the Bushy Rifle has an optional Springfield synthetic camouflage stock. Sighting scope uses only seconds and requires no extra weight or 200 cartridge.



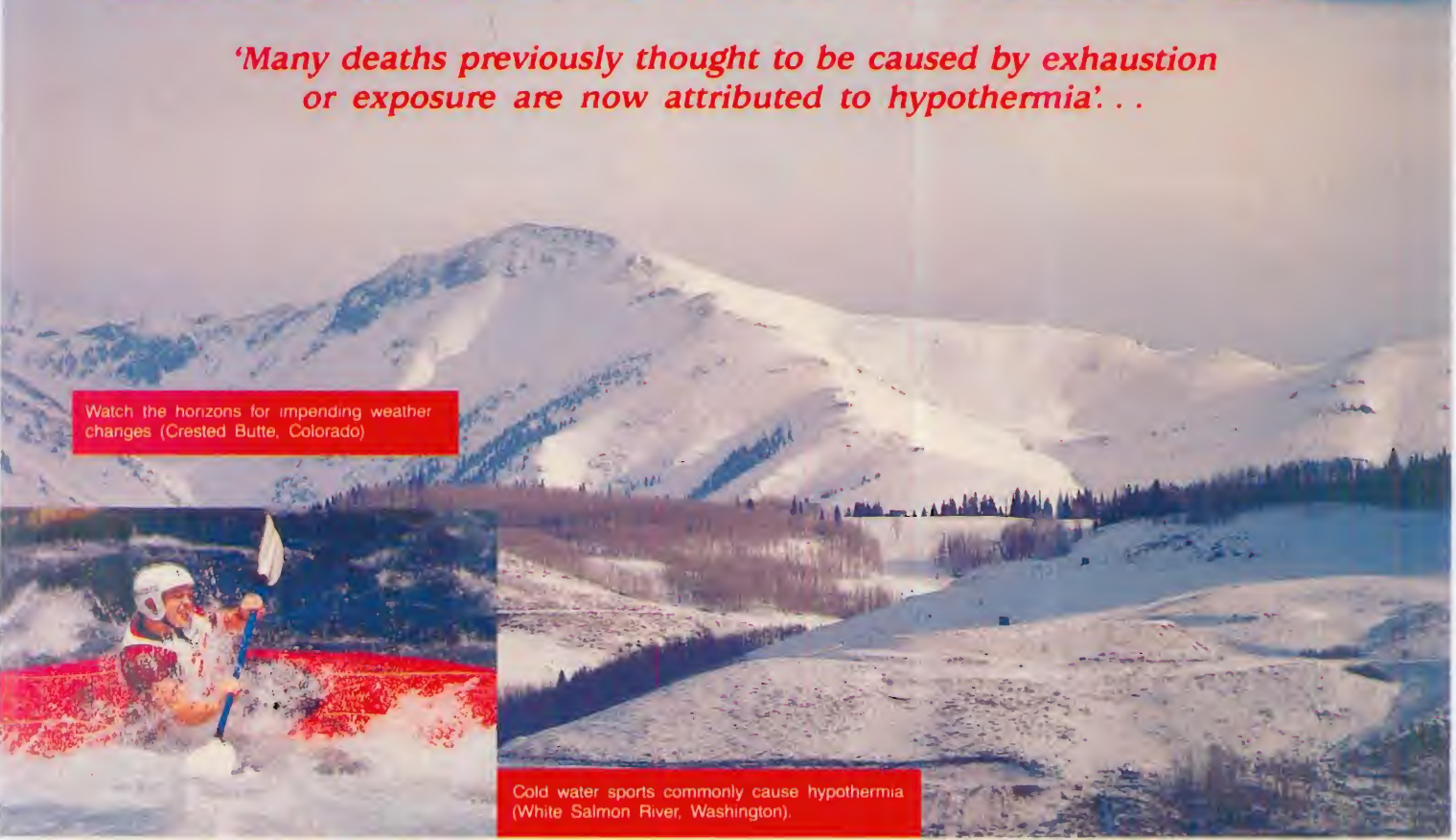
This vertical string of shots was fired fairly quickly using iron sights and a rest from 100 yards.



Core Temperature Loss:

Insidious Killer

'Many deaths previously thought to be caused by exhaustion or exposure are now attributed to hypothermia' . .



Watch the horizons for impending weather changes (Crested Butte, Colorado)



Cold water sports commonly cause hypothermia (White Salmon River, Washington).

By B.M. Wiard

THE name, "hypothermia," describes the condition: "hypo" which means "too little," and "thermia" which refers to "heat." Hypothermia is defined in *Medicine for Mountaineering* as "A decrease in core body temperature to a level at which normal muscular and cerebral functions are impaired." Normal body temperatures are within one degree of 98.6 degrees F. As the body cools below that, first the muscles and then the mind are affected. Death can occur at core temperatures as high as 82 degrees F. Many deaths previously thought to be caused by exhaustion or exposure are now attributed to hypothermia. Air temperatures do not have to be below freezing and hypothermia can occur in any season.

A hunter shared this story of hypothermia, stressing that it could have happened to anyone. It had been a good day, with a heavy morning frost for easy tracking. It was cool, but sunny; not the kind of day you would associate

with near tragedy. He was properly dressed for the chill weather and hunted all day without trouble.

On the way back to the cabin late that day, he slipped on a mossy rock during a stream crossing. Instantly he was floundering in knee deep water. A rock turned under his feet and he slipped again, falling to his knees. Cursing his luck, he climbed out of the stream. His biggest concern at that time was the ribbing he would get from his friends for being such a bungler.

The cabin wasn't far away, so he didn't stop to wring out his clothes. He hurried, because the soaking had chilled him. So gradually that he didn't even notice, he began moving slower, stumbling more and stopping more frequently to rest. Finally he no longer knew where he was going and he began to wander. Only through good luck did his friends find him in time.

Body heat is lost in several ways. Exposed skin loses heat rapidly because of radiation and convection. An exposed head may be responsible for 50 percent of total heat loss. Direct

contact with a cold surface causes rapid heat loss through conduction. Evaporation of sweat or other dampness also causes heat loss.

Environmental conditions, activity levels, and individual susceptibility affect the rate of heat loss. The most rapid heat loss occurs in conditions that are both wet and windy. Due to increased breathing and evaporation of sweat, heat is lost more rapidly during exercise. Thin individuals lose heat faster than obese people, and men often lose heat faster than women. This is because of variations in the insulation provided by subcutaneous fat. Alcohol use also speeds heat loss by causing the capillaries near the skin surface to dilate.

Most cases of hypothermia have common denominators. Starting out in bad weather or being caught by it is a major cause. Pushing on and spending the night without adequate shelter brings greater risk than bivouacking in a protected area. Having inadequate clothing, especially a lack of wind protection, and being wet are also major



Avoid sweating in cold weather. This skier has regulated her temperature by shedding layers of clothing (Tatooshes, Washington).



Without extra clothing, this hiker could be in trouble later (Snowy Lakes, Washington).



This hiker is adequately clothed for the current weather but could easily be caught by a weather change (Crested Butte, Colorado).

contributing factors. Physical exhaustion plays a large part in more serious cases and inexperience also adds to the risk.

Prevention — The body attempts to maintain a normal temperature in several ways. As cooling proceeds, circulation is slowly shut down to the extremities, especially the hands and feet. During early stages of hypothermia, heat is produced by shivering. It is an automatic reflex and produces about the same amount of heat as a fast walk. During heavy exertion, however, shivering may not be evident. Exercise in cold weather uses more energy than similar exercise in warm weather. This extra energy helps keep the body warm, but can lead to rapid exhaustion.

An experienced person always watches the weather. Gathering clouds or increasing wind can mean an approaching storm. Even without bringing a storm, changing weather can affect you in important ways. For example, clouds which hide the sun

may cause snow to crust over earlier in the day than you anticipated. This may make travel more difficult and cause you to fall behind schedule. Wind means "wind-chill," and it can turn an otherwise warm day into a cold one. An unexpected rain shower can quickly soak you, increasing your chance of hypothermia.

When in doubt, set up camp or prepare a bivouac site NOW. Your destination is better reached a day late than never. When muscular or mental impairment has become apparent, hypothermia is already serious. Map and compass skills are important, as a lost person is likely to spend time without adequate shelter. It is also necessary to become familiar with the construction of emergency shelters. A bivouac shelter should protect you from wind, precipitation and surface moisture. Huddling together with other people will keep you warmer than bivouacking alone.

The good outdoorsman carries an emergency kit, which includes extra clothing and food, first aid supplies,

and the means for starting a fire. A high caloric food source can help prevent exhaustion and hypothermia. Some wilderness travelers carry canned dog food as their emergency food supply, on the grounds that it will always be there when they really need it! Pack your survival kit in recloseable, air-tight plastic bags. This way it will be dry if your pack leaks or you get wet.

Choice of clothing is very important. It should be adequate for temperatures at least 20 degrees colder than those you expect. It should include covering for all exposed skin, except possibly your face. Many thin layers are the most effective way to dress when active in a cold setting. Layering allows easy temperature regulation to avoid chilling and excessive sweating.

Choose wool or synthetic garments which will still be warm when wet. Polypropylene and similar fabrics are good for inner layers because they wick moisture away from your skin. Gore-Tex and other breathable, waterproof fabrics are good choices for wind/

Insidious Killer



The weather can deteriorate rapidly in the mountains, even in summer months. This photo was taken in August in Switzerland.

STAGES OF HYPOTHERMIA

Degrees Fahrenheit	Muscular Impairment	Cerebral Impairment	Other Signs and Symptoms
99	None.	None.	Normal body temperature.
98			
97	Minor impairment. Difficulty using hands.		Shivering begins. Chill feeling. Skin feels numb.
96			
95	Weakness. Incoordination more obvious.	Mild confusion and apathy.	Slow pace with stumbling.
94			
93			
92	Gross muscular incoordination. Inability to use hands.	Slurred speech and slow thought. Listlessness.	Frequent stumbling and falling.
91			
90			
89			
88	Severe muscular incoordination and stiffness.	Confusion. Incoherence. Irrationality.	Shivering stops. Inability to walk.
87			
86			
85			
84	Severe muscular rigidity.	Extreme lethargy. Little response to stimuli.	Pulse and respiration very slow. Dilated pupils.
83			
82			
81			
80	Rigidity.	Unconsciousness.	Death when heart stops.
79			
78			

rain shells because they allow water vapor to escape, keeping you dry inside. The smart outdoorsman carries a wind/rain shell and a warm hat at all times. These two simple garments can be instrumental in preventing hypothermia.

Treatment — When hypothermia is diagnosed, a shelter should be set up and treatment begun immediately. The only exceptions to this are when the situation is hazardous or a warm shelter is available nearby. Core body temperature may continue to fall for two hours after external warming has started. Therefore, it is important to treat hypothermic victims as soon as possible.

Remove the victim's clothing, especially if it is wet, and replace it with warm, dry clothing. An effective technique for rewarming is to place the victim in a sleeping bag with another, non-hypothermic, person. The sleeping bag provides the insulation and the second person provides the heat.

With care taken not to burn the victim, warm stones or bottles of hot water can also be placed in the sleeping bag. Other external sources for gradual reheating may also be applied. As long as the victim is conscious, he can be given a warm, non-alcoholic drink. Monitor the victim closely and continue treatment until recovery is complete.

Unconscious persons in deep hypothermia may appear to be dead. Heart action and respiration may seem to be absent. If you are uncertain, begin artificial respiration with rewarming. Although rewarming should be started at once, it must be approached very carefully to prevent deeper shock. If possible, deeply hypothermic victims should be rewarmed only by trained professionals under controlled conditions. Examination by a physician is recommended, even if recovery seems complete.

Under normal circumstances, hypothermia is easily prevented. An experienced person can usually avoid hypothermia, even under the most severe conditions. The keys to prevention are to be prepared and to plan ahead. It is easy to remember the threat of hypothermia in a snowy, winter environment. In other seasons, however, the danger may not be apparent until it is too late. Weather in the mountains can be especially unpredictable: I've seen it change from sun and 80s one day to snow and 20s the next day — in August! Be prepared! ●



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WWII:

Joe Griffin,

*Brutal beatings, little food,
and the smell of death...*

By Charles G. Anderson

POW Survivor

Joel (Joe) Griffin joined the United States Army Air Corps on January 21, 1942, shortly after the bombing of Pearl Harbor on December 7, 1941. He was shipped off aboard the *Queen Mary*, only 28 days after enlistment. After reaching Australia, he participated in bombing raids on Japanese camps in New Guinea and New Britain — islands located off the northeast coast of Australia.

Corporal Joe Griffin lay flat on his back outside a grass hut in a native village of New Britain on the morning of June 28, 1943. Excruciating pain shot through his body from back injuries received just two nights earlier after parachuting into the hostile jungle. Barely able to see through swollen eyes, Joe watched their boots as the Japanese soldiers approached to drag him inside the hut one more time.

Previously, the tormentors had kicked and beaten him, and when he was unable to continue talking, they poured ice water over his limp body and laughed. Again today, he would face his captors from his make-shift stretcher, but would tell them little. "Just enough to stay alive," he would say later.

The Japanese soldiers dropped the stretcher in front of Joe's tormentors and the interrogation began just as they had the day before. As they questioned, they kicked his sides and beat him with rifle butts. When he could no longer speak, they pulled him outside where he lingered in a semiconscious state for eight agonizing days. Just fifteen miles from Rabaul, New Britain, Joe endured torture at the whims of his captors...

Joe's plane, *The Taxpayer's Pride*, a B-17 attached to the 43rd Bomb Group, left Port Moresby, New Guinea, in the late evening of June 25, 1943. The pilot, Lieutenant Donald D. McEachran, warned his crew that they might encounter Japanese night fighters.

After a short flight over the HUMP and a briefing at Dobadura, New Guinea, 21 planes took off at 1:00 a.m. on June 26 for their target at Rabaul, New Britain. Lieutenant McEachran



The Taxpayer's Pride, somewhere in the Pacific, 1943. This B-17 attached to the 43rd Bomb Group was downed by Japanese night fighters near Rabaul, New Britain, June 26th, 1943.

flew in first as the search lights crisscrossed the horizon and the ack-ack exploded around the plane. The bombs were dropped on the harbor, and McEachran turned his plane toward home base.

About five miles out of Rabaul, Joe spotted the shadow of a plane crossing the beams of the search lights. He called to McEachran who alerted his crew. A couple of minutes later, something hit the plane that sounded like gravel hitting a tin roof. Then, Joe discovered flames shooting from the right wing. This also he reported to the pilot. In a calm, steady voice, Lieutenant McEachran responded, "Corporal Griffin, everything is going to be all right."

The B-17 began to vibrate, and fire spewed from the wing. As Joe in his tail gunner's position searched the night sky for the enemy fighter, shrapnel once more struck the plane. "It sounded like gravel again, but I knew that gravel was not hitting a plane at

14,000 feet over the Pacific." As the plane plunged downward, Joe tried desperately to contact McEachran, but the radio remained silent as the giant plane lumbered out of control through the early dawn sky.

With every muscle of his body, Joe pulled himself to the escape hatch. Ready to abandon the plane, Joe made one final effort to contact the other members of his crew. As Joe opened the hatch leading to the fuselage of the plane, hot flames seared his face. The roar of the engines drowned out his yells. "Hey, anybody there?" he shouted several times. There was no answer except the crackling of flames as they engulfed the huge B-17. As the plane headed downward, Joe pulled himself back to the escape hatch and hurled himself into the morning sky.

Fearing the plane might explode, Joe hesitated a few seconds before pulling the cord on his chute. As he glided slowly to earth, he searched the sky for other survivors. Only silence greet-

ed him, and then an explosion in the distance. This could only mean that his nine comrades had died. As the sun peeked over the mountains, Joe knew the rising sun was coming up for him in more ways than one.

Landing in a tree, Joe managed to wriggle out of his harness, free fall onto a smaller tree below, then finally hit the ground. After walking a short distance, he sat down from exhaustion and immediately dropped off to sleep.

He awoke to the sounds of crowing roosters and grunting hogs. He recognized them from his early days on the farm at Baird, but even in a semiconscious state and a body racked with pain, he knew this was not Texas.

Hobbling toward the sounds, Joe found himself surrounded by natives, the Kanakas, and one of them spoke English. They helped him walk to their village, where they fashioned him a stretcher. His back had been injured by the parachute landing. He knew that it would only be a matter of time before the Japanese would come to take him prisoner.

Sure enough, about 2:00 that afternoon, the Japanese Patrol arrived. As Joe lay helplessly on the stretcher, unable to turn over and with excruciating pain shooting through his back, the soldiers came up behind him. A shouted command sounded like "one, two, three, FIRE!" Joe thought, I am being shot." He closed his eyes, but a soldier marched around the front and spoke to him in English. He and his stretcher were then loaded into a jeep and driven to a jungle hospital.

The hospital was a grass hut and the doctor was showing off for the other soldiers and natives. They peeked through the openings which served as windows as the doctor attempted to treat Joe's injured back by straddling him and pressing in with his knees. As a crowd of fifty or more laughed, the fat doctor jumped up and down as Joe screamed in pain. A nurse cut Joe's hair and stitched up two large gashes in his scalp.

Ten days of interrogation and torture left Joe weak and exhausted. Then the Japanese sent him to Rabaul while still on his stretcher. The doctor had taped his body from his shoulders to his waist, and Joe could hardly breathe. When he thought he was about to suffocate, he yelled for his captors to stop the jeep. Then, he managed to breathe easier again.

When the Japanese arrived at Rabaul with Joe, they cast him into an eight by ten foot cell with seven other



B-17s drop bombs near Rabaul, New Britain, 1942-1943.

men. One small barred window provided a meager amount of light and air. Joe occupied the cell with Lieutenant Berry and Cephas Kelly, both Naval flyers, and Captain Jack Wisner from Wells, Texas. There were also two Chinese and two Japanese. A square wooden box served as their latrine, and it was rarely serviced. The men slept on the floor at night, and sometimes a straw mat was given them for their bed. Prisoners were allowed to sit against the wall, but strict rules prevented any conversation.

In early August, young Air Corp Lieutenant Jose Holguin joined the group. His plane had also been shot down on June 26. Shrapnel had broken his jaw as he bailed out, and screw worms now infested the putrid flesh. Holguin had hidden in the jungle for over a month, and was nearly starved to death. When Joe and Jose were caught talking, they were dragged outside and brutally beaten. Holguin's jaw was broken again.

The Japanese allotted each man two rice balls to eat per day, along with a little water. The men were taken outside daily to dig air raid shelters and line them with coconut logs. Later in 1945 when the camp was bombed, Holguin and others found safety in these shelters. Approximately 75 prisoners were held in this camp. A survey after the war revealed that only seven survived. Holguin was one of the seven.

Joe soon learned that Japanese cruelty had no boundaries. One evening, as the prisoners watched, the guards beat a Kanaka with bamboo poles. The man's screams echoed throughout the camp, and by nightfall

no sound came from the native. The captives assumed he had been killed, and they feared for their own safety. Any provocation (talking, sitting improperly, peering out the window) would usually result in severe beatings.

One morning as Joe worked outside, an English speaking guard named Yano showed him a magazine picture of the *Taxpayer's Pride*. The tail rested upright in a tree, the body of the plane was in shambles. Yano explained, "Here is your crew." He had clearly marked the names of Joe's comrades beside their bodies in the jungle. Joe gazed at the photograph and walked away with tears in his eyes. Later, Yano asked, "How would you like to go to Japan?" It caught Joe by surprise. Yano continued, "Half the Japanese ships headed for Japan are being sunk." Joe sensed compassion in Yano's voice that he had never seen in other Japanese.

"Can I think it over?" Joe asked. The next day he informed Yano that he wanted to go.

The weather in New Britain continued hot and sticky, even for November. Filthy living conditions and accompanying body lice created a fetid offensive odor that clung to Joe's nostrils for years afterward. "The smell of death," he would later say. Toward the end of November, 1943, Joe and nine other men, including Captain Jack Wisner, sailed for Japan.

Just as Yano had said, the journey to Japan was miserable. The prisoners were squeezed into a hole with 500 injured Japanese soldiers. A 16-year-old sergeant named Kelly was gravely ill suffering from infectious wounds in his legs where the holes gaped open,

Joe Griffin, POW Survivor

barring the bones. The rotting flesh oozed gangrenous pus.

After repeated supplications, the Japanese medics gave Joe and the others some medicine. They applied the medicine and Kelly slowly got better. Throughout the nights, giant rats would jump from the rafters and gnawed at the sleeping soldiers. Screams reverberated to every part of the ship as the helpless victims swatted at the rats.

The ship landed on December 6, 1943, and the men boarded a train for Tokyo. Upon arrival in Tokyo, they were placed in a tiny guardhouse near a hospital. A Japanese doctor examined them separately. When a Sergeant Winn told the doctor he had shot down two Japanese planes, the doctor turned on him and beat him severely. He returned to the cell, and Joe helped doctor his wounds. They remained in the cramped cell through the Christmas holidays and were forced to sit and stare at the blank dingy wall.

The prisoners were taken from their cell on January 1, 1944 and sent to camp Omori at the Tokyo Harbor. Joe was assigned the number 3455. This would be with him for as long as he stayed in Japan and for the rest of his life. The men were commanded to learn their number in Japanese. Joe did not know his at the second roll call. He was dragged outside and beaten with fists and rifles. By the third roll call, Joe knew his number. He knows it now. If a person asks Joe his POW number, he, without hesitation, calls it out in Japanese. Tears flow as he repeats it.

Joe's weight dropped from 195 pounds to 95 in the five months since his capture. The prisoners ate soup, water, and

rice twice a day. If worms swam in the rice they ate it anyway. In April 1944, Joe became seriously ill with dysentery.

Later, although not fully recovered, he was forced to stand duty and kill flies in the POW mess hall. The guard gave him a matchbox and ordered him to fill it by the end of his eight hour shift. When Joe did not meet this quota, he was slapped and beaten.

April is springtime in Japan, but Camp Omori resembled nothing that Joe had ever read or heard about Japan. The guards constantly tortured the POWs. Once Joe observed them as they poured a liquid substance on the foot of an American soldier and then set it afire. "The heat will cure the swelling," they explained.

In July 1944, Joe and two hundred others were moved to Camp Sumadi Gawa in Tokyo. There were American, English, Norwegian, Swedes, Canadian, and Scotch prisoners at this camp. The ranking American officer was Captain Martin who had been brought from Rabaul with Joe.

By October 1944, a young Japanese commander by the name of Sato was assigned to head the camp. He instructed his guards that there would be no cruelty to the prisoners. The beatings ceased and the men were given better rations.

Several of the men went to Sato and asked if he would allow them to have a Christmas party. He agreed, and the men were given Red Cross candies and other supplies for their party. As they met that Christmas Eve, a young American POW pulled out a list of Christmas songs. The list had been carefully typed in the states and some loving mother had tucked it into her

son's pocket before he left for war. Some 200 voices shook the rafters of the old warehouse with the first song "Silent Night." The curious guards looked on, but dared not interfere.

When "Silent Night" ended, hardly a dry eye was left, but the men continued singing. They ended with "O Little Town of Bethlehem." Joe sat next to a young man, Ted Cottingham, from Potts, England. Every allied nation was represented, and the men sang until midnight.

Commander Sato was transferred in early 1945. The new commander allowed beating and torture, but they were less severe as the Americans were bombing Tokyo. Also several earthquakes hit and Japanese soldiers would fall to the ground and pray to their gods. Joe and others cheered as the planes bombed Tokyo and the earthquakes hit their camp. The camp deteriorated into turmoil without Sato, and the men were forced to steal to survive. The men constructed a rice cooker underneath the floor. They stole rice and wheat as they loaded it on the trains. Joe was caught stealing rice, and he was beaten. They managed to have lots of rice to eat. Joe later described his beating, "I nearly passed out, but I knew they would kill me if I did. So I determined to stay conscious and I did.

By the summer of 1945, the mail was coming through and the Red Cross was delivering food. One of Joe's fellow prisoners was gravely ill and undernourished. When the Red Cross food arrived, he ate heartily and the next morning they found him dead.

The war ended on August 14, 1945. The POWs did not know this but they suspected it because many planes were now coming into Tokyo. The Japanese guards behaved more humanely toward them. When the POWs awoke on August 20th, the camp had been deserted. Not a Japanese was in sight.

Captain Martin warned the POWs to stay in camp. Many however, made their way through downtown Tokyo and boarded American planes. Joe stayed in the camp. On August 29, 1945, a barge carrying military personnel came up the canal to their camp. The men were taken to a hospital ship, stayed briefly, and were flown to Manila. They then sailed to California and by the middle of October, Joe was in El Paso, Texas. The long ordeal was over. In the quiet of a Texas sunset he could hear the last words of Lieutenant McEachran... "Corporal Griffin, everything is going to be all right." ●



Grass huts in New Guinea, South Pacific. Joe Griffin lay on a stretcher near a hut like these for ten days while a prisoner of the Japanese.



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Stranded and Freezing

By Randy L. Cornell

I have been a subscriber to *ASG* for over two years now and not only do I look forward to every issue, but I keep all my back issues for reference and review. I have been able to apply many of the bits of information I have picked up from *ASG* to my everyday life.

I don't consider myself a "survivalist" but rather prefer to be called a "realist." I think anyone who goes through life believing they will never need a supply of food and water, extra clothing and equipment, as well as a means of protecting themselves is a fool. Ask anyone who lived through the recent earthquake in San Francisco if they believe in planning and preparing ahead now!

I am writing to tell you about a recent "adventure" I became involved in that could very well have turned tragic. . .

I retired from law enforcement in 1985 after receiving injuries in the line of duty that not only cost me my career, but almost my life and did leave me partially handicapped.

I moved from California to Boise, Idaho, and attended the university there. While in Idaho, I spent a great deal of time in the outdoors, and while I'm not able to climb or travel on foot through rugged terrain I still manage to get around in the field. During this time (three years) I had the opportunity to not only apply many of the skills learned from *ASG* articles, but to learn a great deal about surviving in severe winter conditions. One of the most important things that I learned is to always plan ahead and always carry cold weather survival equipment in your vehicle when traveling during winter months.

My basic winter kit (which I duplicate for every member of my family) is as follows:

- 1 emergency first aid kit
- 2 space blankets
- 1 insulated snow suit
- snow hat and heavy gloves
- 1 heavy blanket
- candles and matches
- snow boots

high energy candy
military or commercial MREs
commercial storm kit (includes a tube tent)

I have not mentioned the spare parts and equipment that normally stay in my truck year round.

This last summer we sold our home in Boise and moved to the north shore of Lake Tahoe. The elevation is about 6,400 feet. I travel to the Reno area a great deal and decided to drive into town to have my 4x4 serviced. Between my house and Reno I must cross over a mountain pass climbing to over 8,500 feet. Several days before leaving for Reno we had a good snow storm that left 7-9 inches of snow at my house and approximately three feet of snow in the pass.

Since I expected to leave my truck at the dealership for a few days, and not wanting to chance the possible loss, I removed my survival equipment from the truck.

On a good day, it is only about a 45 minute drive from my house to Reno. Knowing that the roads were icy I figured it would take a little over an hour and a half to make the drive.

When I left my house the sky was clear, the temperature was in the low 30s and there was a slight breeze blowing. The time was 9:30 a.m.

Survival Situation:

*A mechanical failure and
no winter survival
supplies. . .*

I had been driving about 30 minutes and was just reaching the summit area when the engine quit. No warning, just quit. I immediately switched fuel tanks thinking I might have a fuel problem but was unable to restart the engine. I coasted to the side of the road and stopped the truck. After trying without success to get it started I stepped out of the truck to check under the hood. As soon as I opened the door I knew I was in trouble. The light breeze that was blowing at my house at 6,400 feet in the low 30s, was now gusting well over 30 mph. How cold was it when figuring in the wind chill? I will never know for certain but by the time I walked from the door of the truck to the hood I was already shivering and my face, neck and hands had begun to tingle and then lose feeling.

To save time and to spare you the names I called myself, I will just say that I was unable to repair the truck.

I found myself standing in the middle of the mountains wearing a light shirt, a sleeveless down vest, blue jeans and (thank God) heavy Sorrel snow boots, which I believe is why I still have all of my toes.

In Idaho, a vehicle stalled at the side of the road with the hood up in winter time, usually draws quite a crowd of

(Continued on page 36)



Without winter survival supplies, getting stranded can be extremely dangerous.

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Stranded and Freezing

(Continued from page 34)



With winds of 30 mph, the wind chill factor was well below zero.

people very quickly. Mostly because your average Idahoan has at one time or another been in the same situation and knows it can turn serious very quickly.

In Nevada, I found it to be a different ball game. Not only did people not stop to help, several sped up and swerved wildly across into the incoming traffic lanes when I simply waved my hands from the side of the road to attract their attention.

Since freezing to death at the side of a major highway has never been a hobby of mine, I decided to stay in my truck to get out of the freezing wind and wait for someone to stop or for a highway patrolman to show up. Thirty minutes later, with the insides of the windows fogged up and beginning to ice over, and feeling myself turning hypothermic, I knew I had to do something. I climbed inside my campershell and dug around the spare tire and parts normally stored there and found a pair of uninsulated mechanic's coveralls that, while greasy, would at least offer a little more protection than I had with the clothing I had on. I put the coveralls on and, not finding anything else in the back, I climbed back into the cab.

Still shivering, I decided to abandon the truck and try walking back towards town. I reasoned that a car driving by would tend to stop for a man walking in the snow along side a mountain highway, and that walking would help me warm up.

As I exited my truck, I glanced behind the seat and saw a pair of mittens

that belonged to my six-year-old son. Thinking that I might be able to split part of the seam and slip them over my hands, I moved the seat forward and found, to my delight, that I had left an old Indian blanket that had been given to my son as a present several years before, under the seat. That blanket being left under the seat prevented tragedy. Using my pocket knife, I cut a slit in the center of the blanket and slipped it over my head like a poncho. Locking my truck, I started walking.

As I mentioned, I can't walk fast or cover rugged terrain so I had to set a fairly slow pace. The icy wind was partially blocked by the blanket, but I soon lost feeling in my face, ears and neck. Twice I was passed by cars which I tried to flag down, to no avail. Looking back, I realize how I must have looked with greasy coveralls showing below an old Indian blanket — no wonder nobody stopped! As I walked alongside the roadway, I heard what sounded like a large truck with tire chains coming down the hill behind me. I turned to try to flag it down and found it to be a snowplow clearing the roadway.

I felt so much relief seeing the snowplow that it's hard to put into words. In Idaho and other parts of the country, you always hear about the guy driving the snowplow who stops and helps the stranded motorist or picks up the hitchhiker stranded in the snow, bringing a happy ending to the story.



The author made a makeshift poncho from an old Indian blanket stowed under the seat.

Not this time.

With me standing at the side of the road, waving my arms and smiling from ear to ear, the guy in the snowplow, as the saying goes, "kept on truckin'" At that moment, if I could have found just one rock in all that snow... Well, you get the idea.

At any rate, it was back to walking. In all the times I have traveled that stretch of mountain road, I never noticed the little blue sign with the white letters that said "emergency phone 500 feet." Well, I noticed it now!

Shivering and limping in pain, I covered that 500 feet in record time. When I opened the phone box, picked up the phone and heard a voice say "Sheriff's Department," I knew I was going to be all right.

The deputy sheriff who arrived 10 minutes later had his heater turned up full blast and within minutes I started to get that painful tingling feeling as my face, ears and neck started to thaw out.

I called for a tow truck from the sheriff's office and after a two hour delay because of the snow, it arrived. I rode back to my truck and then on into Reno.

I was lucky. The only permanent damage I suffered is a partial loss of sensation in my face and neck. Oh, by the way, the reason my brand-new truck stopped running? The neutral safety switch failed. I learned my lesson the hard way. I hope you never have to. ●

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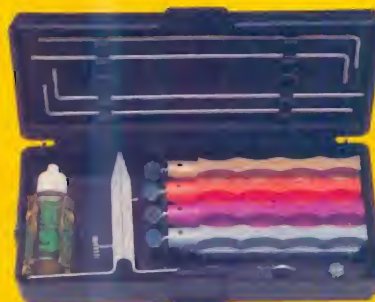
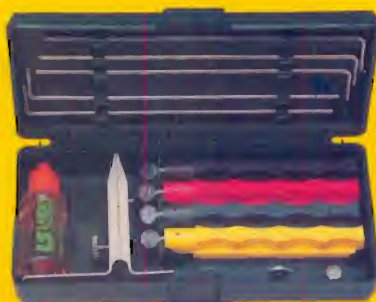
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- COLD STEEL'S LATEST "BIG BLADE"
- 400 SERIES STAINLESS STEEL BLADE - FULL TANG
- LOW MAINTENANCE STAINLESS GUARD & POMMEL
- BLACK CORDURA SHEATH INCLUDED

#CSMGS
Retail \$190.00
Your DISCOUNT Price **\$149.95**



MAGNUM II
Blade length: 7 1/2"
Length overall: 13"
Blade thickness: 3/16"
Weight, knife: 11.2 oz
Weight, sheath: 3.8 oz

COLD STEEL

U.S.M.C. KA-BAR

- AUTHENTIC REPLICA OF THE FAMOUS WWII MARINE CORPS KNIFE
- BLACK PARKERIZED HIGH CARBON STEEL BLADE, HONED RAZOR SHARP
- COMPACTED LEATHER DISC HANDLE, TREATED TO RESIST THE ELEMENTS
- BROWN LEATHER SHEATH INCLUDED

#KBUSMC
Retail \$40.00
Your DISCOUNT Price **\$29.95**



U.S.M.C. KA-BAR
Blade length: 7"
Length overall: 12"
Blade thickness: 5/32"
Weight, knife: 10.2 oz
Weight, sheath: 4.1 oz

Ka-bar®

Ek M-4

- CONTOURED BLACK MICARTA GRIPS
- FULL DOUBLE EDGE BLADE
- BRASS X-HEAD FASTENERS
- BLACK WEB SHEATH

#EKM4
Retail \$159.00
Your DISCOUNT Price **\$119.95**



M-4
Blade length: 6 7/8"
Length overall: 12 1/2"
Blade thickness: .150"
Weight, knife: 11 oz
Weight, sheath: 5.0 oz



Ek SF-3

- FULL TANG - FULL STRENGTH
- PARACORD WRAPPED HANDLE
- SHARPENED FALSE EDGE
- OLIVE DRAB WEB SHEATH

#EKSF3
Retail \$109.00
Your DISCOUNT Price **\$79.95**



SF-3
Blade length: 6 7/8"
Length overall: 12 1/2"
Blade thickness: .150"
Weight, knife: 8.6 oz
Weight, sheath: 5.0 oz



Ek WARRIOR

- FULL-THICKNESS - FULL TANG - FULL STRENGTH
- TRIPLE RIVETED AMERICAN WALNUT GRIPS
- NON REFLECTIVE BLADE - CROSSGUARD & RIVETS
- O.D. GREEN NYLON WEB SHEATH INCLUDED
- POUND FOR POUND, DOLLAR FOR DOLLAR, THE Ek WARRIOR OFFERS MORE VALUE THAN ANY OTHER KNIFE IN ITS CLASS!

#EKWR
Retail \$69.00
Your DISCOUNT Price **\$49.95**



WARRIOR
Blade length: 6 5/8"
Length overall: 12 1/2"
Blade thickness: .150"
Weight, knife: 8.6 oz
Weight, sheath: 5.0 oz



COMBAT KNIVES SHOWN IN SHEATHS



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Ek BOWIE

- RAZOR SHARP BOWIE BLADE
- FULL TANG - FULL STRENGTH
- BRASS X-HEAD FASTENERS
- CONTOURED BLACK MICARTA GRIPS
- BLACK NYLON WEB SHEATH INCLUDED

#EKMS
Retail \$179.00
Your DISCOUNT Price **\$124.95**

Ek BOWIE

Blade length:	6 7/8"
Length overall:	13"
Blade thickness:	3/16"
Weight, knife:	13.4 oz
Weight, sheath:	4.2 oz

COLD STEEL



COLD STEEL TRAIL MASTER

- PHENOMINAL CARBON 5 BLADE STEEL
- TEXTURED NON-SLIP KRATON HANDLE
- THICK BRASS GUARD
- RUGGED SHEATH INCLUDED

#CSBWC
Retail \$225.00
Your DISCOUNT Price **\$179.95**

TRAIL MASTER

Blade length:	9 1/2"
Length overall:	14 1/2"
Blade thickness:	5/16"
Weight, knife:	16.9 oz
Weight, sheath:	6.7 oz

**SOG
SPECIALTY
KNIVES**



SOG TIGERSHARK

- HIGH CARBON BOWIE BLADE
- FULL TANG - FULL STRENGTH
- SHOCK ABSORBING KRATON HANDLE
- BLACK LEATHER SHEATH INCLUDED

#SSTGS
Retail \$140.00
Sale Price **\$104.95**

TIGERSHARK

Blade length:	9"
Length overall:	14"
Blade thickness:	1/4"
Weight, knife:	17.5 oz
Weight, sheath:	7.0 oz

**SOG
SPECIALTY
KNIVES**



SOG MIDNITE TIGER

- CUTLERY SHOPPE EXCLUSIVE
- SUBBUED HIGH CARBON BLADE
- FULL TANG - FULL STRENGTH
- SHOCK ABSORBING KRATON HANDLE
- BLACK CORDURA SHEATH INCLUDED

#SSMT
Retail \$200.00
Sale Price **\$129.95**

MIDNITE TIGER

Blade length:	9"
Length overall:	14"
Blade thickness:	1/4"
Weight, knife:	17.5 oz
Weight, sheath:	7.5 oz



AL MAR ALASKAN

- EXQUISITE AL MAR QUALITY
- A CLASSIC BOWIE WITH A MASSIVE 12" BLADE
- AM-6 HOLLOW GROUND BLADE
- FULL TANG - FULL STRENGTH - LANYARD HOLE
- TITANWOOD HANDLE - STAINLESS CROSSGUARD
- BEAUTIFUL BROWN LEATHER SHEATH INCLUDED

#AM4009
Retail \$250.00
Your DISCOUNT Price **\$225.00**

ALASKAN

Blade length:	12"
Length overall:	17 1/4"
Blade thickness:	1/4"
Weight, knife:	23.3 oz
Weight, sheath:	9.0 oz

BOWIES SHOWN IN SHEATHS



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- WASP WAISTED, DOUBLE EDGE BLADE
- CAT'S TONGUE NON-SLIP HANDLE
- SERIAL NUMBERED FOR COLLECTORS
- BLACK CORDURA SHEATH INCLUDED

#GB5705
Your DISCOUNT Price **\$89.95**

MARK II WASP

Blade length:	6 1/2"
Length, overall:	11 1/2"
Blade thickness:	1/4"
Weight, knife:	7.2 oz
Weight, sheath:	6.4 oz

GERBER
LEGENDARY BLADES
A Kershaw Company



GERBER MARK II

- CLASSIC COMBAT BLADE STYLE
- DOUBLE EDGED BLADE WITH SERRATIONS
- BLACK CORDURA SHEATH INCLUDED

#GB5700
Retail \$90.00
Your DISCOUNT Price **\$62.95**

MARK II

Blade length:	6 1/2"
Length, overall:	11 1/2"
Blade thickness:	1/4"
Weight, knife:	7.1 oz
Weight, sheath:	6.4 oz

GERBER
LEGENDARY BLADES
A Kershaw Company



GERBER LMF TACTICAL

- SLEEK MID-SIZE BOWIE
- DUPONT HYPALON HANDLE
- BLACK CORDURA SHEATH INCLUDED

#GB5957
Retail \$155.00
Your DISCOUNT Price **\$107.95**

LMF

Blade length:	6"
Length, overall:	10 3/4"
Blade thickness:	1/4"
Weight, knife:	10.8 oz
Weight, sheath:	7.6 oz

SOG
SPECIALTY
KNIVES



SOG-TECH II

- SINGLE BRASS GUARD FOR A STRAIGHT THUMB HOLD
- DOUBLE STITCHED BLACK LEATHER SHEATH

#SSTEC2
Retail \$120.00
Sale Price **\$89.95**

SOG-TECH II

Blade length:	7"
Length, overall:	12 1/4"
Blade thickness:	1/4"
Weight, knife:	13.1 oz
Weight, sheath:	4.7 oz



AL MAR SERE 7-A

- CLASSIC AL MAR COMBAT BLADE STYLE
- STAIN RESISTANT AM-6 BLADE STEEL Rc 57-59
- CAMO MICARTA HANDLE SLABS - FULL TANG BLADE
- REINFORCED BLACK NYLON SHEATH INCLUDED

#AM3007A
Retail \$215.00
Your DISCOUNT Price **\$193.50**

SERE 7-A

Blade length:	7"
Length, overall:	12.5"
Blade thickness:	3/16"
Weight, knife:	15.0 oz
Weight, sheath:	7.5 oz

BOOT KNIVES

GERBER MARK I

- A CLASSIC BOOT KNIFE!
- FULLY DOUBLE EDGED BLADE

#GB5600
Retail \$75.00
Your DISCOUNT Price **\$52.95**

MARK I

Blade length:	5"
Length, overall:	9"
Blade thickness:	1/4"
Weight, knife:	5.3 oz
Weight, sheath:	2.0 oz

GERBER GUARDIAN I

- CUTLERY SHOPPE EXCLUSIVE
- SERIAL NUMBERED FOR COLLECTORS
- FULLY DOUBLE EDGED BLADE
- PERFECTLY SIZED BOOT-CONCEALMENT KNIFE

#GB5850
Your DISCOUNT Price **\$49.95**

GUARDIAN I

Blade length:	5"
Length, overall:	9"
Blade thickness:	3/16"
Weight, knife:	4.2 oz
Weight, sheath:	2.0 oz

KERSHAW MILITARY BOOT

- HAND FORGED FROM A SOLID PIECE OF STEEL
- NON-REFLECTIVE FINISH
- BLACK MICARTA HANDLE
- BLACK LEATHER SHEATH WITH BOOT/BELT CLIP

#KR4351
Retail \$105.00
Your DISCOUNT Price **\$74.95**

MILITARY BOOT

Blade length:	4 3/4"
Length, overall:	9 1/8"
Blade thickness:	3/16"
Weight, knife:	5.0 oz
Weight, sheath:	2.0 oz

BOOT KNIVES IN SHEATHS



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- COMFORTABLE TO WEAR - DESIGNED & MADE BY BLACKIE COLLINS • CUTLERY SHOPPE EXCLUSIVE

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Your DISCOUNT Price **\$9.95**



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GERBER AUSTRALIAN

- MASSIVE 9 1/2" CLIP POINT BOWIE BLADE
- 425 HIGH CARBON STAINLESS STEEL, Rc 53-56
- TRADITIONAL COFFIN-SHAPED KRATON HANDLE
- BLACK CORDURA SHEATH INCLUDED

#GB5978
Retail \$140.00
Your DISCOUNT Price **\$94.95**

AUSTRALIAN

Blade length:	9 1/2"
Length overall:	14 3/4"
Blade thickness:	5/16"
Weight, knife:	17.6 oz
Weight, sheath:	6.5 oz



GERBER
LEGENDARY BLADES
A Fiskars Company

GERBER OUTBACK

- CUTLERY SHOPPE EXCLUSIVE
- MASSIVE 9 1/2" CLIP POINT BOWIE BLADE
- BLACKENED BLADE, GUARD & LANYARD
- 425 HIGH CARBON STAINLESS STEEL, Rc 53-56
- TRADITIONAL COFFIN-SHAPED KRATON HANDLE
- BLACK CORDURA SHEATH INCLUDED

#GB5979
Retail \$150.00
Your DISCOUNT Price **\$99.95**

OUTBACK

Blade length:	9 1/2"
Length overall:	14 3/4"
Blade thickness:	5/16"
Weight, knife:	17.6 oz
Weight, sheath:	6.5 oz



GERBER
LEGENDARY BLADES
A Fiskars Company

GERBER PREDATOR

- CUTLERY SHOPPE EXCLUSIVE
- NON-REFLECTIVE BLADE, GUARD & POMMEL
- 440-A HIGH CARBON STAINLESS BLADE, Rc 54-56
- SHOCK-ABSORBING DUPONT HYPALON HANDLE
- BLACK CORDURA SHEATH INCLUDED

#GB5930
Retail \$235.00
Your DISCOUNT Price **\$159.95**

PREDATOR

Blade length:	9"
Length overall:	14 1/2"
Blade thickness:	1/4"
Weight, knife:	16.3 oz
Weight, sheath:	10.9 oz



GERBER
LEGENDARY BLADES
A Fiskars Company

GERBER BMF

- CUTLERY SHOPPE EXCLUSIVE
- NON-REFLECTIVE BLADE, GUARD & POMMEL
- 440-A HIGH CARBON STAINLESS BLADE, Rc 54-56
- SHOCK-ABSORBING DUPONT HYPALON HANDLE
- BLACK CORDURA SHEATH INCLUDED

#GB5928
Retail \$235.00
Your DISCOUNT Price **\$159.95**

BMF

Blade length:	9"
Length overall:	14 1/2"
Blade thickness:	1/4"
Weight, knife:	16.6 oz
Weight, sheath:	12.8 oz



GERBER
LEGENDARY BLADES
A Fiskars Company

KUKRI KNIVES



AL MAR PATHFINDER

- FUNCTIONAL MACHETE BLADE DESIGN
- AM-6 BLADE STEEL, Rc 57-59
- FULLY SHARPENED FALSE EDGE
- DURABLE ZYTEL HANDLE WITH BRASS GUARD
- HEAVY DUTY BLACK NYLON SHEATH

#AM4011
Retail \$250.00
Your DISCOUNT Price **\$225.00**

PATHFINDER

Blade length:	14"
Length overall:	19 1/2"
Blade thickness:	5/32"
Weight, knife:	23.7 oz
Weight, sheath:	8.0 oz

PATHFINDER SHOWN IN SHEATH



COLD STEEL A.T.C.

- THREE YEARS IN THE MAKING - IN STOCK AT LAST!
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- MASSIVE GURKHA KUKRI-STYLE BLADE - HONED RAZOR SHARP
- COMFORTABLE SHOCK-ABSORBING KRATON HANDLE
- INCLUDES REINFORCED "BREAKFRONT" BLACK CORDURA SHEATH

A.T.C.

Blade length:	12"
Length overall:	17"
Blade thickness:	1/4"
Weight, knife:	23.0 oz
Weight, sheath:	4.8 oz

CARBON 5 A.T.C.

#CSATCC
Retail \$275.00
Your DISCOUNT Price **\$219.95**

COLD STEEL

A.T.C. SHOWN IN SHEATH



WHITE HUNTER

- HOT DROP FORGED FROM A SOLID PIECE OF STEEL
- PUMA SUPER KEEN STAINLESS STEEL BLADE
- UNIQUELY SHARPENED BACK EDGE FOR CHOPPING
- SELECT STAG HORN HANDLES TRIPLE PINNED TO THE FULL TANG BLADE
- LARGE BRASS THONG HOLE, COMPLETE WITH LEATHER THONG
- DOUBLE STITCHED TOP GRAIN LEATHER SHEATH INCLUDED
- CHOICE OF BIG GAME HUNTERS WORLDWIDE

#PM375
Retail \$235.00
Your DISCOUNT Price **\$141.00**

PUMA BOWIE

- HOT DROP FORGED FROM A SOLID PIECE OF STEEL
- PUMASTER HIGH CARBON STEEL BLADE
- SELECT STAG HORN HANDLES TRIPLE PINNED TO THE FULL TANG BLADE
- LARGE BRASS THONG HOLE, COMPLETE WITH LEATHER THONG
- DOUBLE STITCHED TOP GRAIN LEATHER SHEATH INCLUDED

#PM396
Retail \$192.00
Your DISCOUNT Price **\$115.20**

WHITE HUNTER	
Blade length:	6"
Length, overall:	11"
Blade thickness:	3/16"
Weight, knife:	9.0 oz
Weight, sheath:	3.5 oz

PUMA BOWIE	
Blade length:	6 1/2"
Length, overall:	11"
Blade thickness:	1/8"
Weight, knife:	7.3 oz
Weight, sheath:	3.5 oz

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PUMA



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MEDICI

- RAREST OF ALL PUMA KNIVES
- PUMA SUPER KEEN STAINLESS BLADE
- UNIQUE FLOATING GUARD
- SELECT STAG HORN HANDLES
- GERMAN NICKEL SILVER BOLSTERS
- HANDMADE BY SOLINGEN CRAFTSMEN

#PM563
Retail \$210.00
Your DISCOUNT Price **\$126.00**

MEDICI	
Blade length:	3"
Length, open:	7 1/4"
Length, closed:	4"
Blade thickness:	1/8"
Weight, knife:	3.1 oz

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- AN EXCELLENT FOLDER FOR THE MONEY

#GB7049
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Your DISCOUNT Price **\$44.95**

PARABELLUM	
Blade length:	4 1/4"
Length, open:	9 1/2"
Length, closed:	5 1/4"
Blade thickness:	1/75"
Weight, knife:	6.3 oz
Weight, sheath:	1.6 oz



SPYDERCO HARPY

- RAZOR SHARP SPYDER EDGE SERRATED BLADE
- WICKED "TALON" STYLE BLADE
- UNIQUE POCKET CLIP FOR EASE OF CARRY

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SPYDERCO ENDURA

- RAZOR SHARP SPYDER EDGE SERRATED BLADE
- UNIQUE POCKET CLIP FOR EASE OF CARRY
- DUPONT ZYTEL HANDLE - TEXTURED GRIP

#SP1010RS
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SPYDERCO POLICE

- RAZOR SHARP SPYDER EDGE SERRATED BLADE
- UNIQUE POCKET CLIP FOR EASE OF CARRY
- #1 CHOICE OF LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS

#SP1007RS
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SOG SOGWINDER II

- QUICK OPENING THUMB STUD
- AUS-8A BLADE STEEL, Rc 57-59
- KRATON "POINT POSITIVE" GRIPS
- INDUCTION WELDED BOLSTERS & LINERS
- DUAL MOUNTING BLACK NYLON SHEATH

#SSWDR2
Retail \$90.00
Your DISCOUNT Price **\$69.95**

SOG TOMCAT

- AWARD WINNING DESIGN
- AUS-8A BLADE STEEL, Rc 57-59
- KRATON "POINT POSITIVE" GRIPS
- INDUCTION WELDED BOLSTERS & LINERS
- DUAL MOUNTING BLACK NYLON SHEATH

#SSSTC
Retail \$90.00
Your DISCOUNT Price **\$69.95**

COLD STEEL LARGE SHINOBU

- TRIPLE LAMINATED SAN MAI III BLADE
- KRATON HANDLES FOR A SURE GRIP
- BLACK NYLON SHEATH INCLUDED

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AL MAR SERE/ATTACK

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- CAMO GREEN MICARTA SCALES
- RUGGED SHEATH INCLUDED

#AK3003-A
Retail \$195.00
Your DISCOUNT Price **\$175.95**



HARPY	
Blade length:	3"
Length, open:	6 1/2"
Length, closed:	4"
Blade thickness:	1/8"
Weight, knife:	3.7 oz

ENDURA	
Blade length:	3 7/8"
Length, open:	8 1/2"
Length, closed:	4 3/4"
Blade thickness:	1/8"
Weight, knife:	2.7 oz

POLICE	
Blade length:	4 1/4"
Length, open:	9 1/2"
Length, closed:	5 1/4"
Blade thickness:	1/8"
Weight, knife:	5.7 oz

SOGWINDER II	
Blade length:	3 1/2"
Length, open:	8 1/4"
Length, closed:	4 3/4"
Blade thickness:	3/16"
Weight, knife:	7.6 oz
Weight, sheath:	9 oz

TOMCAT	
Blade length:	3 1/2"
Length, open:	8 1/4"
Length, closed:	4 3/4"
Blade thickness:	3/16"
Weight, knife:	7.6 oz
Weight, sheath:	9 oz

LARGE SHINOBU	
Blade length:	3 1/2"
Length, open:	8 1/4"
Length, closed:	4 3/4"
Blade thickness:	5/32"
Weight, knife:	4.4 oz
Weight, sheath:	1.2 oz

SERE/ATTACK	
Blade length:	4"
Length, open:	10"
Length, closed:	6"
Blade thickness:	5/32"
Weight, knife:	11.5 oz
Weight, sheath:	4.3 oz

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- ✓ BROWN LEATHER SHEATH WITH REINFORCED TIP INCLUDED

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V-42 STILETTO

Blade length:	7 1/4"
Length overall:	12 1/4"
Blade thickness:	5/32"
Weight, knife:	7.1 oz
Weight, sheath:	2.8 oz



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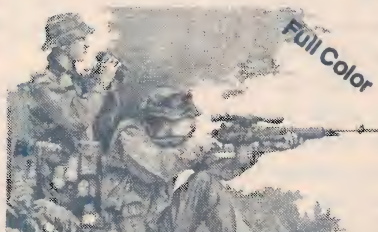
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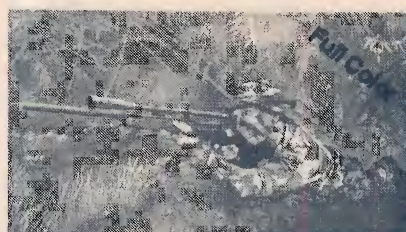
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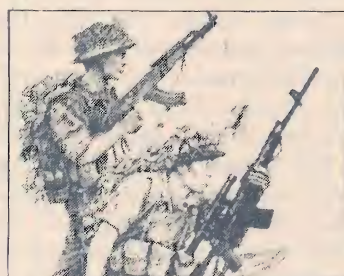
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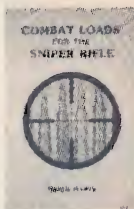
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King Cobra



The large frame, full length ejector rod housing and barrel rib provide enough weight that recoil with magnum loads is moderate.



The King Cobra fits more comfortably in larger hands but its size and bulk make it easier to shoot even for people with smaller hands.

Staff Evaluation

THE advantages, in personal defense, law enforcement and sporting uses such as hunting, of a big, heavy frame .357 Magnum revolver are many. Colt's King Cobra is meant to provide those advantages.

Production of the King Cobra began in 1986. Its introduction to the revolver market coincided with Colt's ceasing production of a moderately priced revolver in its line of handguns, and the King Cobra was intended as something of a replacement of better quality and as a less expensive alternative to the firm's renowned Python .357, according to the information we have from Colt's Manufacturing Co., as the firm is now called. The King Cobra should not be confused with the small frame .38 Special Colt Cobra revolver.

The all-steel King Cobra features Colt's forged steel frame and barrel and full length ejector rod housing. There is also a solid rib above the barrel for improved sighting and added heft for reduced muzzle rise and recoil when firing magnum loads. A long, coiled mainspring coupled with an improved sear release design gives the King Cobra a smooth double action trigger pull. A short hammer lock is said to provide a quick lock time for faster, more accurate firing.

The King Cobras are available in matte stainless steel, matte blue and bright stainless steel finishes and in 2½-, 4-, 6- and 8-inch barrel lengths. These guns have standard black neoprene finger grooved combat-style stocks and standard white outline square-notch rear sights, adjustable for windage and elevation, and ramp style front sights with red inserts. The excellent sights aid in rapid acquisition of sight picture.

The trigger is serrated for a good grip. The automatic safety mechanism prevents the hammer from striking the firing pin until the trigger is pulled all the way. We recently had the oppor-

(Continued on page 48)

AMERICAN SURVIVAL GUIDE/DECEMBER 1990 47

King Cobra

(Continued from page 46)



The results of some fast shooting offhand, from 10 yards with Hornady 125-grain JHPs.



Swing-out cylinder holds six rounds. Cylinder latch is drawn rearward to open the cylinder.

tunity to test shoot a King Cobra with 2½-inch barrel. We tested the gun with some Hornady and Federal 125-grain jacketed hollow point ammunition as well as with American Eagle 158-grain jacketed soft point cartridges.

As with any short-barreled magnum revolver, the 2½-inch King Cobra has a lot of muzzle flash and noise when fired, and produces a fair amount of recoil. Some of us had shot this same snub-nosed type of King Cobra about a year and a half ago and at that time our impressions of it included that it had quite a bit of kick with magnum loads. But the same gun's recoil can be perceived differently by different people. Experienced shooters

who are familiar with the King Cobra will not be put off by its kick. Actually, for a short-barreled .357, the King Cobra is more manageable and pleasant to shoot than most. The large frame and heavy barrel with its full length ejector rod housing and solid barrel rib help the shooter absorb a good deal of the jolt from firing magnum loads. The neoprene grips help cushion that recoil too.

This gun will fit more comfortably in large hands. This is definitely not one of those hideaway guns. The 2½-inch model weighs in empty at 2 pounds, 5½ ounces. The weight and bulk of this gun make it a poor choice for concealed carry, particularly for

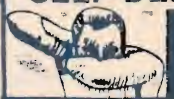
smaller individuals. But even those shooters with smaller hands can handle the King Cobra with ease.

The approximately 4-inch sight radius of this gun made longer-range accuracy somewhat more challenging to obtain than with a longer-barreled revolver, but with practice, the 2½-inch King Cobra will hit the target consistently. The Colt suggested retail price for the 2½-inch King Cobra shown here of \$419.95 is affordable and very reasonable for such a high quality firearm. This is an outstanding handgun, large and very strong, dependable and accurate. ●



Rear sight is a white outline square notch adjustable for windage and elevation. Front sight is a ramp type with red insert.

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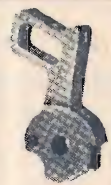


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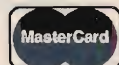
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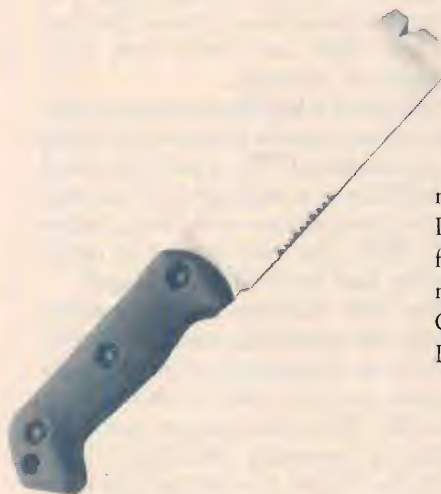
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P85 Pistols

*Advanced design, military specification,
decocking 9 millimeter semiautomatic handguns. . .*



This group was obtained from 28 yards with quick aimed fire, using Winchester Silvertip hollow points.

By Jim Benson

After first shooting Ruger's P85 9 millimeter semiautomatic pistols, I wasn't overly enthusiastic about them.

They are well made, of course, as are all the Ruger firearms I've handled. True to the Ruger tradition, their design is simple and reliable and they are affordably priced. I think I've been so spoiled by the SIGs and Glocks and other high dollar, sophisticated 9 mm handguns I've had the pleasure of shooting (limited as that shooting has been) over the years that I tended to overlook the better points of these Ruger entries in the popular 9 mm market.

After three shooting sessions, getting better acquainted with how the P85s handle and shoot, my opinion of them has improved considerably.

The P85s are made in a new Ruger factory in Arizona employing the most modern equipment. In designing this handgun, introduced in 1987, Ruger engineers wanted an advanced design which was nevertheless simple and of the highest possible quality.

Made to military specifications, the P85, along with several other 9 mm pistols, was tested extensively by the U.S. Army in 1988 and 1989, ostensibly to decide whether to continue with the Beretta pistol or purchase a new one for service use.

Although the Army ultimately decided to continue to purchase the Beretta, the P85, according to Ruger, "performed extremely well. Its accuracy exceeded government requirements by far. No component parts of any pistol (30 were submitted for testing by Ruger) were worn or broken. The mean number of rounds fired between stoppages in the P85 pistols was one stoppage in 1,129 rounds during reliability testing."

The 15-shot (16 if one round is carried in the chamber with a full magazine) P85 is a double-action, recoil operated firearm which employs the time proven Browning 1911 type action utilizing a tilted barrel design. The barrel and slide are strongly locked and recoil together at the moment of firing, then the barrel unlocks and comes to rest while the slide continues its rearward motion to complete the cycle of ejection and reloading.

The P85 frame is made from light weight investment cast aluminum

alloy, hard coated (anodized) for toughness, with a matte black finish. The grips are matte black plastic. The barrel and slide are made from steel investment castings.

The barrel is stainless while the slide has the same matte finish as the frame on the standard P85. A stainless steel slide P85 was introduced late last year and is pictured here with the standard P85. Both guns were loaned to us for testing and evaluation by Ruger.

The P85 features a combination safety and decocking mechanism actuated by an ambidextrous thumb lever located on both sides of the rear of the slide. When the hammer is cocked, either by manually drawing it back with the thumb or drawing the slide fully rearward, the safety/decocking lever is then depressed fully downward, exposing a white dot and the word "safe." (Note: the gun can be fired if the safety lever is not fully down.) This action blocks the firing pin and hammer and disengages the entire firing mechanism from the trigger and safely lowers the hammer so the gun can be carried with a round chambered. However, the safety/decocking lever must be moved up to the "fire" position, exposing a red dot, before the weapon will fire.



The P85 is lighter and more compact than a 1911-A1 pistol.

(Continued on page 68)





Second Strike Weapon:

Stealth

The most expensive and perhaps most controversial aircraft ever built . . .

Bomber

Just four B-2s with refueling tankers could have conducted the same raid on Libya that took more than 100 U.S. aircraft to carry out a few years ago, an Air Force general says (U.S. Air Force).

been unveiled by the Pentagon. While the F-117A program (which is virtually complete) appears to enjoy widespread congressional support, the B-2

By
Michael Pietrantonio

IN August of 1980 things were not looking good for the Jimmy Carter re-election campaign. Saddled with astronomical inflation rates, the hostage crisis in Iran and continuing charges by the Reagan team that he was soft on defense, Carter decided to take the offensive.

In an interview conducted by George Wilson, President Carter disclosed the existence of one of the most highly classified military projects in U.S. history — the Stealth bomber. This announcement was greeted with outrage by the military and intelligence establishments of the U.S. and Carter was accused of putting his re-election ahead of vital national security interests.

Now, 10 years later, Stealth is again at the forefront of the news. In the past year both the B-2 Stealth Bomber and the F-117A Stealth fighter have

The B-2 Stealth Bomber, with its flying wing design, is intended to be almost invisible on radar screens. It was designed to attack command posts and bunkers housing enemy leadership during a nuclear war and hunt down mobile ICBMs. Its proponents also see it used in conventional warfare (U.S. Air Force).

program (only now starting production) appears to be in jeopardy. Ironically the plane with which the Carter Administration sought to prove its military macho has been in danger of being grounded because of the perceived "outbreak of peace" which has occurred recently in U.S. relations with the Soviet Union. The invasion of Kuwait



The F-117A Stealth Fighter program has enjoyed far more congressional support than has the B-2 bomber. The F-117A, shown here, has been flying since 1983 and was used in the U.S. attack on Panama (U.S. Air Force).

last summer by Iraq led Congress to halt a move to terminate the B-2 program altogether. But its future is still uncertain.

The B-2 is a classic example of the military engineer's axiom that "mission dictates design." It was designed to carry out deep penetration of Soviet airspace while remaining undetected by Soviet air defense radars. It is this requirement of virtual "invisibility" to Soviet radar which accounts for the unique design of the B-2.

The B-2 is a second strike weapon. Its primary mission is to penetrate Soviet air defenses during a nuclear war and attack hardened fixed targets such as command and control centers and missile silos. Additionally, the B-2 has a secondary mission of locating and destroying the mobile SS 24 and SS 25 missiles now being deployed by the Soviets.

To carry out these missions the B-2 is capable of carrying up to 50,000 pounds of ordnance. Using two rotary launchers the B-2 can carry up to 16 nuclear tipped SRAM 2s (short-range attack missiles) or the same number of B-83 nuclear gravity bombs. If the mission calls for the use of conventional ordnance the B-2 can carry as many as 80 500-pound high-explosive gravity bombs. Special munitions such as sea mines or so-called smart bombs can also be carried by the B-2.

The B-2 carries no defensive weaponry. It cannot shoot back if it is detected and attacked by a fighter. Instead it relies on its stealthiness and if need be, an array of electronic countermeasures, ECM, to avoid detection. The ECM capabilities of the B-2 are among its most highly classified secrets.

In order to perform the missions

described above the B-2 must be capable of eluding not only various types of Soviet radar, but also other sophisticated methods of detection. These methods include infrared detectors which sense the heat of a jet engine's exhaust, acoustic detection methods, and even human eye visual detection of such things as engine smoke and contrails. The ability of the B-2 to counter a wide range of detection technologies has led many in the field to call the Stealth "more a philosophy than a technology."

How does this "stealth philosophy" work? How do you go about making an aircraft which weighs some 350,000 pounds, stands 17 feet high and has a wing-span of 172 feet virtually undetectable to the most sophisticated air defense system in the world?

Flying Wing — The most obvious stealth characteristic of the B-2 is its "flying wing" design. There are no vertical surfaces or sharp angles on the exterior of the aircraft. Even the four General Electric F118-GE-100 engines, each producing some 19,000 pounds of thrust, are housed within the flying wing airframe of the B-2.

The shape of the B-2, with its lack of exterior vertical surfaces, means that the aircraft will have a very small radar cross section, RCS, on enemy radar screens. The RCS of an aircraft can vary greatly, depending on such things as the size and shape of the plane, the frequency of the radar, and the angle at which the radar beam strikes the aircraft. The flying wing design of the B-2 allows it to deflect and defuse radar beams to such an extent that its RCS will be well below .01 square feet. To put that number in perspective, the B-52, a totally

unstealthy aircraft, has an RCS of around 1,100 square feet, while the B-1B bomber, which does incorporate many stealth characteristics in its design, has an RCS of about 10 square feet.

A note about flying wings. While the flying wing is perfectly suited for stealth aircraft, it does present a number of difficulties in terms of aerodynamic stability and control. Since there are no vertical or horizontal tail surfaces to control the aircraft, the engineers at Northrop (the prime contractor for the B-2) designed a system that utilizes elevons, engine thrust vectoring, and a computerized "fly by wire" flight control system, to keep the aircraft stable in flight.

Along the trailing edge of the B-2 are eight elevons (combination elevators and ailerons). These elevons are connected to a quadruple-redundant General Electric digital flight control system, DFCS. The DFCS is basically a network of sensors throughout the aircraft which are connected to a central computer in the avionics bay. The computer checks these sensors thousands of times a second and continuously makes minute adjustments in the elevons to keep the aircraft stable. The pilot's yoke is also connected to the DFCS so that his control movements for the aircraft are electronically sent to, and acted upon by, the DFCS. This is known as a "fly by wire" control system since the links between the pilot and the aircraft control surfaces are electronic and not mechanical. It is possible that the DFCS in the B-2 uses fiber optics and pulses of light rather than conventional wires to transmit electronic signals between the DFCS computer and control surfaces. Fiber optics are much more

Stealth Bomber

resistant to the effects of nuclear-blast-generated electromagnetic pulses, EMP, than are hard wired systems.

Besides its flying wing shape, the B-2 incorporates many other design innovations which contribute to its stealthiness. Among the most important of these are the materials used in the construction of the aircraft.

The B-2 is an all-composite aircraft. That is, both its outside skin and its internal structural components are made from a carbon-fiber-based composite material. This material is similar to the carbon fiber composites now being used in the manufacture of tennis racquets and skis.

Composite materials have many advantages over the aluminum alloys traditionally used in aircraft construction. They are both lighter and stronger than metal alloys, they are more resistant to the structural stresses produced in an aircraft, they are highly resistant to corrosion, and of particular importance to the B-2, they can be made far less radar reflective than can metallic materials.

In addition to composites, the B-2 makes use of special radar absorbent materials, RAMs, which are used as coatings on both the external skin and internal structural components of the aircraft.

RAMs have been around a long time. Basically they are combinations of ferite particles such as iron filings and carbon epoxy resins. Radar is an electromagnetic wave with both electrical and magnetic properties. RAM works by interfering with the electrical and magnetic fields created when a radar wave strikes an object.

RAS — In the B-2, RAM is combined with multi-layered composites to form what is called a radar absorbent structure, RAS. The best description of the B-2's RAS comes from the book *Stealth Bomber — Invisible Warplane, Black Budget*, by Bill Sweetman. According to Sweetman, the B-2 probably uses composite honeycombed structural slabs to achieve the RAS effect: "A honeycomb RAS might consist of an outer skin of Kevlar 149/epoxy composite, which is transparent to radar, and an inner skin of reflective graphite/epoxy. The (honeycombed) Nomex core between them would be treated with an absorbent agent, increasing in density from front to rear of the

honeycomb." Such a configuration would trap radar waves within the structure where they would reflect back and forth losing energy upon each reflection. This RAS, says Sweetman, "is an electromagnetic Roach Motel — radar waves check in, but they don't check out."

As was noted earlier, the B-2's engines are mounted within the B-2 itself. The air ducts seen on the top of the B-2 (on either side of the cockpit) are constructed of RAM and are shaped to reduce their radar signature. The inlets are connected to the engines by downward sloping S-shaped ducts. The ducts are also coated with RAM. By burying the engines within the aircraft Northrop was able to conceal the

mixes cold outside air into the exhaust of the engines, significantly cooling the exhaust gases. The shape of the exhaust outlets, wide and flat instead of round, also contributes to the cooling of the exhaust gases. The outlets appear to be made of a different material than the rest of the aircraft. There is speculation that this material is similar to the heat dissipating tiles used on the space shuttle.

The engines on the B-2 have been designed to be virtually smoke free during flight. By placing them within the aircraft designers have also reduced their acoustic signature. Also, it is assumed that a contrail control system developed by the Air Force in the 1950s has been updated for use on the B-2. These measures will greatly reduce the chances of visual or audio detection of the bomber.

The B-2 was designed for a two-man



The B-1B Bomber has a radar cross section, or RCS, of about 10 square feet, while the B-2 Bomber RCS is less than .01 square feet (U.S. Air Force).

engine compressor blades which are highly radar reflective. In fact, engine compressor blades are so radar reflective that the air to air radar systems used aboard U.S. fighters such as the F-14D and the F-15 are able to count the compressor blades on enemy aircraft up to 100 miles away, and then use the blade count as a means of identifying the type of aircraft they are tracking.

The exhaust outlets of the B-2 engines are designed to minimize the aircraft's thermal signature. Infrared, IR, sensors (designed to lock on to a heat source) are routinely used on guided missiles and Soviet interceptor aircraft. To counter these IR sensors the engine exhausts of the B-2 are placed on top of the wing. There is also a special duct in the B-2 which

crew, though provisions were made for the later edition of a third crew member. The cockpit contains eight computerized cathode ray tube, CRT, displays. These displays do away with the hundreds of switches and gauges formerly used to monitor and control an aircraft of this type. Using these displays the crew can call up any type of needed information instantaneously.

Controversial Cost, Mission — While the Soviets may have a difficult time targeting the B-2, the same cannot be said for congressional budget cutters and other foes of the program. They have attacked the B-2 as being too expensive and, in light of decreasing world tensions, unnecessary. Further, they say the mission of the B-2, to

(Continued on page 65)

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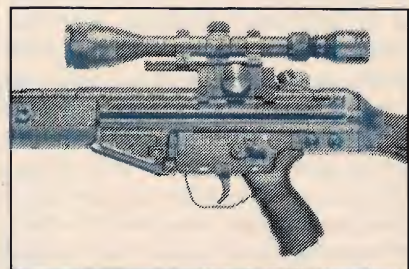
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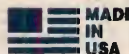


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IRA Summer Campaign

The actions and tactics employed by the PIRA last summer indicate that this organization has more members, is better organized and much more active than previously thought. . .

By Lawrence W. Myers

The "Summer Campaign" conducted by the Provisional Irish Republican Army caught a number of security and intelligence organizations by surprise.

The actions and tactics employed by various PIRA cells are not particularly new or innovative, however the audacity and the apparent target selection criteria, combined with the refined operational techniques indicative of the recent campaign, are worthy of note.

It has become clear that the PIRA has performed a number of critical operational changes which are now emerging as identifiable characteristics of a well planned and structurally flexible terrorist attack strategy being executed by a new generation of young, dedicated, and significantly better trained participants.

It might be useful for American law enforcement and professionals to ex-

amine this organization in its current form.

The modern IRA and its associated factions has become an established international terrorist organization with a clearly refined military structure and enhanced capabilities. Recent evidence suggests that this group may become the pre-eminent threat to a number of national security and corporate interests not normally associated with this group's defined goals and political objectives.

Current tactical doctrine for this well entrenched paramilitary organization is clearly focused on the British military as its fundamental target. Military personnel and buildings are considered lucrative targets in PIRA attack strategies. Additionally, UK military contractors, corporate subsidiaries of these contractors, politically significant business establishments and personnel, as well as any group,

firm or individual identified as being friendly to PIRA enemies, are considered viable targets for attack.

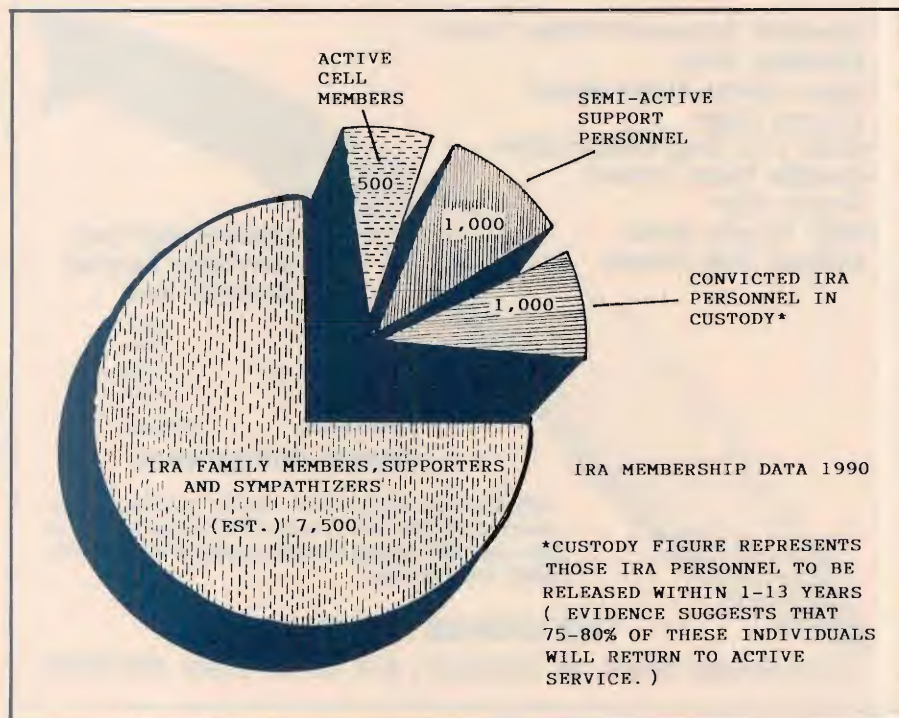
Specifically, anyone who appears to be unwilling to accept the PIRA activities is considered fair game. This includes journalists, vendors, and politicians.

Though this broad target strategy may appear to be of minimal risk to U.S. interests in Britain, Northern Ireland or Europe, it should be pointed out that some of the attacks have caused "accidental" death and trauma to individuals who became targets simply because of a mistaken peripheral association with the above "fair game" which is apparently arbitrarily selected by PIRA cell members.

On 27 May 1990, after a late Sunday evening dinner in a Chinese restaurant in Roermond, Holland, four Australian tourists walked back to their British registered rental car, and were in the process of setting up a camera on a tripod to photograph the scenic town square of this tiny Dutch village.

Out of a narrow alley stepped three armed men dressed completely in black and wearing black hoods. They walked quickly up to the two young couples and one of the hooded men fired 15 rounds into the faces and chests of both men.

The killers escaped in a car which easily made it across the Dutch/Belgian border within the hour, and was found abandoned and in flames by Belgian Gendarmie personnel within three hours of the 10 second attack. The 25- and 26-year-old Australian attorneys died from gunshot wound trauma at the scene in front of their hysterical young wives. The IRA in Dublin claimed that the Australian tourists were mistaken for off duty British soldiers from a nearby base in West Germany. The young attorneys had no military haircuts or any other identifiable British military charac-



teristics. Their fatal "mistake" appears to be simply operating a rented vehicle on the European mainland which had British registration plates.

The Roermond incident gave the IRA some political mileage in that the British print media was critical of the British defense ministry's policy change in early 1989 of eliminating the distinctive military license plate issued to British military personnel operating in Europe. The reason for the change was to protect British personnel from the growing IRA attacks on the European mainland where the British Army and RAF operate a number of NATO affiliated bases and installations. The Defense Ministry responded to this criticism by authorizing British military personnel to obtain locally produced vehicles and registrations which are indigenous to their assigned country.

A group of teenage London students decided to rent a large reception hall for one of their friends who was celebrating his 21st birthday. The old building that housed the Honorable Artillery Company was frequently rented out for weddings, parties and other such occasions at a reasonable price. This grand old building is in downtown London, right across the street from the famous London newspaper *The Independent*. It is on the bus line, and the students reserved the hall for the night of 9 June 1990. In the middle of the celebration, a huge explosion shook the building.

At 11 p.m., a bomb was detonated on the roof of the barracks. The explosion could be heard a mile away. Two security guards in the building across the street were knocked flat on the floor from the blast wave. The young students inside the reception hall received concussions and 12 young women and 5 men were rushed to the Hospital Trauma Center for treatment of burn wounds and lacerations from flying glass. None of the bomb victims had any affiliations or even family members associated with the British military or security forces, according to published reports.

The IRA in Dublin did not issue an apology this time. They considered the building to be a "legitimate" target, and the students had simply made the mistake of renting a politically "unsuitable" reception hall. The tactic of claiming responsibility for definitive acts of terrorism, even when they clearly kill, injure or maim innocent parties, is an identifiable operational characteristic of the "new" Irish Re-

publican Army.

Of course, the IRA has a long history of fatal blunders in its actions. This is termed by the security forces and British media as the "Paddy factor," and describes the tragic though seldom comical nature of certain IRA operations.

IRA Unit Structure — Current intelligence estimates suggest that a "typical" IRA unit is composed of 8 to 12 individuals. Each unit is divided into technically specialized and compartmentalized "cells" of 2 to 4 members. Standard tactical doctrine mandates that each cell is physically isolated from all others. The members of each cell, and their identities, location, etc., are frequently known only to the unit commander and his lieutenant. Isolation and careful compartmentalization is vital to operational security (OPSEC), as well as maintenance of unit cohesion. Unit capabilities and cell structure appear to be established at a higher echelon based on mission and geography. Each unit, and in fact each cell, is offered a significant amount of autonomy in target selection, attack strategy, and mission execution.

The intelligence/operations (INTEL/OPS) cell is frequently directed by the unit commander. This cell is highly specialized and contains some of the most experienced and valued IRA personnel. The cell is tasked with target acquisition and pre-attack surveillance. At least one cell member is a specialist in electronic communications technology.

There is growing evidence that the current active units employ radio scanners to study the target military installation, as well as the police and security forces in the area. The collection of Signal Intelligence (SIGINT) is apparently a highly valued and "mission essential" IRA occupational specialty. The electronics specialist also appears to be versed in electronic security system analysis, IED (improvised explosive device) detonation circuitry development and fabrication, as well as inter unit radio communications and electronic surveillance.

Although several IRA operatives captured in the past few years have had formal educations in electronics technology, the ideal cell member fulfilling this role often appears to be somewhat of a generalist in the electronics field. Many seem to have been completely self taught.

Pre-emptive raids by SAS personnel on IRA safehouses also supports the

theory that the INTEL/OPS cell relies on photographic intelligence (PHOTINT) collection in pre-mission surveillance and attack strategy planning. Video and slide image processing seem to be of particularly important use.

Foot and vehicular surveillance is also a specialty for an INTEL/OPS cell member. Studying specific targets and compiling detailed computer based data files appears to be a standard practice. The December 1988 raid on the London bomb factory of IRA member Nicholas Mullen not only resulted in the seizure of over 100 pounds of Semtex, micro-detonators, and digital timers and triggers, but court testimony recently revealed that Mr. Mullen, one of the IRA's most notorious master bomb makers, had extensive intelligence files on several prominent British political figures including Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher's vehicle registration and a detailed chronology of her movements and meeting schedules.

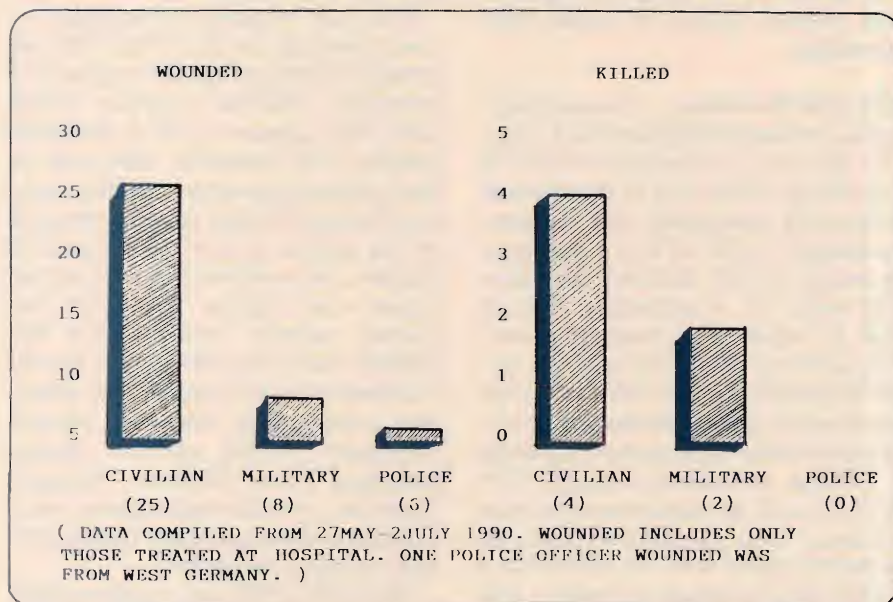
The INTEL/OPS cell employs other specialists on an as-needed basis. The cell is also tasked with countermeasure development to attack unit penetrations by British security personnel and SAS operatives. Careful operational security (OPSEC) combined with recruit tasking based on all new personnel being required to get "wet" by killing a British soldier in front of at least one other cell member has significantly tightened unit security. The unit commander employs his INTEL/OPS cell to enforce security regulations, plan operational tasking, conduct pre-mission and post-mission assessment, as well as develop new technologies into operational technique. In order to maintain stringent OPSEC, the INTEL/OPS cell frequently sends its "product" through France or the Netherlands via courier back to the unit control system. An INTEL/OPS cell is generally the hardest to identify and apprehend for security forces.

The second most identifiable IRA unit cell is clearly the administrative/logistics cell. ADMIN/LOG is required to set up and maintain safehouses, obtain weapons, vehicles, documents, and funding, as well as maintain resource accountability.

Many participants in the ADMIN/LOG cell have no affiliation with the IRA other than political sympathy for the "cause" and an organizational skill at obtaining the various essentials involved with a specific action or campaign.

IRA Summer Campaign

CASUALTY FIGURES
IRA SUMMER CAMPAIGN 1990



The ADMIN/LOG cell is frequently what is encountered in the United States. These personnel conduct fund-raising operations in the northeastern U.S. or conduct "shopping trips" on the West Coast and south Florida for weapons, computer technologies, false documents, etc.

The ADMIN/LOG cell also employs mechanics, car thieves, forgers, gunsmiths, and computer programmers on an as-needed basis. Complete isolation from the rest of the unit appears to be standard operating procedure (SOP). The ADMIN/LOG cell commander typically has contact with the unit through a multi-level cut-out of people or "drops" which transfer material requests and equipment in a fairly efficient manner. ADMIN/LOG cell members are seldom compromised.

Recent trends indicate that the ADMIN/LOG cells are becoming more specialized. For instance, it is believed that one logistics cell operating in Northern Ireland and on the British mainland handles only weapons. Firearms and ammunition are now handled by an offshoot of a logistics cell, commonly referred to as an Arms Cell. Libyan and U.S. financed "arms dumps" are thought to be throughout Europe and the UK. Literally tons of weapons and explosives are believed to be buried.

During the 1970s and early 1980s, the IRA began a concerted effort to obtain and stockpile large quantities

of military grade plastic explosives, and electrical detonators. It is still unclear how the organization was able to convince various Warsaw Pact and Middle East countries to provide the obviously huge amounts of Semtex, C4 and other compounds that the IRA now seems to have in unlimited supply cached throughout the world.

The IRA bomb maker is a very specialized "career path" involving many years of active participation in a DEMO cell. Trainees are already skilled and experienced in at least one other occupation. They are already "wet" with at least one confirmed kill at their own hands, prior to admission to the cell. Under the tutelage of the master bomb maker, the trainee "proves" himself by placing devices at the target, as well as involves himself in the international transportation of the bomb materials as they are needed at a specific area of operation. Careful study and long term commitment are required by DEMO cell members. It is a highly regarded IRA specialty which has become an organizational "career path" for those qualified to participate.

At the "bottom" of the IRA unit structure is the action cell. These are composed of young, physically tough, close knit "fire teams" or "shooters." Their mission is to provide security on a bomb placement assignment, guard safehouses, drive vehicles, and perform the role of the "foot soldiers."

This cell has at least three members, and it is in the action cell that most new IRA recruits begin their careers. The focus is on operational security, basic firearms skills, pre-attack surveillance, and unquestionable loyalty. Each fire team is composed of two young "shooters," an extraction vehicle driver and another vehicle driver, who is often the cell commander. The latest trend, as in the Lichfield, England, Roermond, Holland, and Dortmund, West Germany, shootings indicates that the "shooters" are in their late teens to early 20s and versed in a variety of small arms.

Sleeping Cells — Although the PIRA pattern of continuous blunders is still present in the conduct of their actions, there is a notable difference in the tactical nature of this latest campaign. Most of these cells appear to have been "sleeping" for a while in their target area. There seem to be more active units than recently estimated by British intelligence administrators. Most notable is the scope and apparent willingness to expand the reach of the IRA actions to the British mainland and to the European continent.

Although obviously not indigenous to West Germany, the IRA is the most active terrorist cell in that country. The recently retired West German federal prosecutor was quoted as saying that the IRA is the most significant threat to German internal security of all active groups, including the Red Army and the emerging right wing extremist elements of the GDR.

The West German police (Polizei) are perhaps the best trained and certainly the best equipped urban security organization on the European continent. Excellent tactics and high speed response time permitted the Polizei to confront the IRA cell which executed Major Harry Dillon-Lee on Saturday, 2 June 1990 in Dortmund, West Germany. What resulted was a high speed chase and firefight in which one Polizei officer received a gunshot wound to the leg, and the ultimate escape of the gunmen. Few terrorists or criminals exhibit such luck when confronted by the Polizei.

The willingness to expand operations while still maintaining pressure in Northern Ireland and Britain indicates that the PIRA is larger, more sophisticated, and better equipped and staffed

than previously thought. The infrastructure of this well entrenched and supported group has solidified, and it is quite obvious that a new generation of young, aggressive cells is now being activated.

Since the British military is being targeted in Europe, it may become feasible for the IRA to attack the rather substantial British presence in Canada. UK military operations in Western Canada as well as Nova Scotia are large and well established. The well documented support for IRA activity by U.S. interests may have significant influence on the success of such north American enterprises.

This expansion of operations is also a significant risk at international events. A large number of British athletes who participate on their country's Olympic teams come from the British security forces. The IRA may have specific plans for a "visit" to Barcelona in 1992.

The IRA recently has been identified with various "shopping trips" to the U.S. in order to gather some of the latest technologies in surface to air missiles, communications equipment, and weapons.

Although the IRA has significant support from many fervent believers in this country, they will probably have to deal with one of the many south Florida drug gangs to obtain the items clearly on their "shopping list."

If nothing else, the IRA has emerged in the last decade of the 20th century with a deep-rooted cause, and a carefully established infrastructure which is becoming exceedingly difficult to penetrate using conventional intelligence collection tactics. The group has had its share of mistakes recently, but they are obviously no longer a band of bumbling drunk Irishmen participating in some quixotic quest for regional autonomy. Their military operation has been refined and clearly shows an intent to continue with an increasingly broad based strategy of attack. The 20 to 30 percent unemployment indicative of Northern Ireland's inner cities is providing a huge pool of idle, disaffected youth for recruiting purposes. The organizational structure tends to support analysts' observations that the IRA offers a young Irishman a lifelong career which is not without its rewards. There even appear to be career paths, military occupational specialties, and certain training opportunities similar to any conventional military organization's. The IRA's 22-year terror campaign is now a worldwide threat. ●

IRA Summer 1990 Campaign: Chronology & Locations

14 May, Eltham, England — IRA Demo cell detonates a large bomb inside a vehicle in front of the headquarters building of the British Institute for Army Education while some 50 military personnel are inside the building. Five soldiers are seriously wounded and the front entrance is partially destroyed. IRA in Dublin claims credit for the blast.

24 May, Roermond, Holland — Action cell kills two Australian tourists, mistaking them for British soldiers. Three masked gunmen dressed completely in black (one possibly a woman) attack two Australian tourist couples. Fifteen shots fired with what is believed to be a Kalashnikov rifle at the two men at point blank range, killing them. The terrorists escape across the Dutch-Belgian border. Their vehicle is found later in flames.

1 June, Lichfield, England — Teenage action cell kills a British Army recruit and wounds two others at a train station. Two young males in jogging suits fire a small chrome automatic pistol and a black revolver into the three young soldiers as they wait for a train home to Birmingham.

2 June, Dortmund, West Germany — Action cell kills a British Army artillery officer, Major Henry Dillon-Lee, in a late night ambush. He is shot in the head at point blank range in front of his wife as they return home from a dinner at the British Army base in Dortmund. Afterward, a cell member also wounds a West German policeman in a gun battle during a high speed chase. The terrorists escape, changing vehicles several kilometers away. Traces of blood are found, as well as a Kalashnikov rifle believed used in the attack and a Browning Hi-Power 9 mm pistol.

4 June, Portadown, Northern Ireland — In retaliation for IRA actions, an action cell of the Ulster Volunteer Force bursts into the home of an elderly Catholic man and shoots him to death, wounding his two sons.

6 June, Belfast, Northern Ireland — IRA vehicle bomb kills an elderly man retired from the Royal Ulster Constabulary. His wife also dies of injuries several days later. Two pedestrians are injured in the explosion.

6 June, Shrewsbury, England — Army bomb disposal unit blows up a vehicle believed to have been used in the Lichfield killing which is suspected of being booby trapped with explosive devices.

9 June, London, England — IRA demolitions cell detonates a large bomb on the roof of the Honorable Artillery Barracks in downtown London. Seventeen students are hospitalized.

10 June, Lisnowsky, Northern Ireland — A 26-year-old Ulster Defense Regiment soldier is injured by an IRA bomb in his vehicle.

12 June, Hampshire, England — An 18th century mansion formerly occupied by the former treasurer of Britain's ruling Conservative Party is partially destroyed by a large bomb planted by an IRA Demo cell.

14 June, Hemmelyn, West Germany — An explosion damages a British Army building. IRA claims responsibility.

16 June, London, England — British intelligence states that the two individuals controlling the current IRA terror campaign are Gerard Kelly and Owen Coogan. Kelly is believed to reside in Ireland and is a member of the IRA GHQ staff. He was convicted of 1973 bombings. Coogan is a supply specialist living in N. Ireland. He arranges for funds, weapons and explosives to be delivered to operatives in Britain and Europe.

16 June, Hoogstraten, Belgium — Belgian secu-

rity forces arrest Donna McGuire, active IRA cell member wanted in West Germany for bombing and murder. Dutch police capture one male who escaped from Belgian arrest attempt. McGuire and two males were discovered by a Belgian farmer as they were apparently test firing a Kalashnikov rifle they had buried with several kilos of Semtex-H plastic explosive and a Webley revolver. The farmers detained the three until Belgian police arrived. Both males attacked the police while they were handcuffed and being searched and both managed to escape but McGuire is wrestled to the ground and held. An intensive manhunt involving hundreds of troops, dogs and helicopters is launched in Belgium and southern Netherlands to capture the escaped gunmen.

17 June, Breda, Holland — Dutch police arrest a third man in the IRA cell during the manhunt. A fourth man is arrested a day later with the help of Belgian police and military forces. Tracker dogs picked up the suspect's scent near a woodland and his is captured there. The four are identified as: Donna McGuire, 23; Gerard Hart, 26; Paul Hughes, 26; and Mike Collins, 31.

21 June, London, England — IRA Demo cell detonates a bomb at an RAF base in northwest London. No injuries, minor damage.

23 June, Belfast, Northern Ireland — IRA Demo cell places a 5-lb. bomb along a bicycle parade route. Police defuse the device.

25 June, London, England — IRA Demo cell detonates a 15-lb. bomb in the doorway of the downtown London Charlton Club, frequented by members of Parliament and the Conservative cabinet of Margaret Thatcher. Twenty people are injured and the building is severely damaged.

28 June, County Tyrone, Northern Ireland — Soldier is shot and seriously wounded while on patrol. Security forces blame the IRA.

2 July, Belfast, Northern Ireland — IRA claims responsibility for an attack with a Soviet RPG rocket and small arms attack on a Belfast police station. Five police officers, three soldiers and two civilians are injured. After the attack police capture two suspects, a rifle and an RPG in the area.

24 July, Armagh, Northern Ireland — An IRA Demo cell takes the residents of a small house hostage as they place and run command wires to a 1,000-lb. bomb in a culvert along a roadway nearby. When an unmarked police car drives by the bomb is detonated, killing all three occupants of the vehicle instantly. Sister Catherine Dunne, a Roman Catholic nun, riding in a small car near the police car is also killed by the blast and a Catholic social worker with her is seriously injured. IRA takes responsibility for the killings.

31 July, Hankham, Southern England — IRA Demo cell plants a 5-lb. bomb under the car of member of Parliament Ian Gow. The bomb explodes in Gow's driveway as he backs the car out of his garage, killing him instantly. Several individuals are spotted performing some sort of surveillance near Gow's home before the attack. Gow was a close friend of Margaret Thatcher and an outspoken critic of the IRA. Gow is the fourth member of Parliament killed by the IRA. Gow's name was on an IRA "hit list" found in 1988 in a raid on Nicholas Mullen's bomb factory in London.

5 August, London, England — IRA Demo cell plants a car bomb under the vehicle of an American secretary in northwest London. The car was parked outside the apartment where the former cabinet secretary and head of the civil service Lord Armstrong used to live. The bomb fell off the car as the woman drove away and was defused by British authorities.

M1A-A1 Bush Rifle

(Continued from page 24)



All parts on the Bush Rifle are interchangeable with other M1As and semiauto military spec M14s. The barrel is 4 inches shorter than on the standard rifle.

apparent in the Bush Rifle, whether employing shoulder-aimed fire while standing or using a rest.

As much as I like the M14 and the other Springfield M1As we've tried out

over the years, the Bush Rifle is my favorite. It packs all the punch and accuracy of the bigger M1As yet packs it in a more compact and nicely balanced package. ●

provided by the shorter barrel. The Bush Rifle seems a lot easier to carry and wield than the big M1A, and although it's only a bit lighter, the weight loss is nevertheless appreciated.

We found in test shooting the M1A-A1 that its accuracy is essentially as good as its longer-barreled siblings. While the shorter barrel means some loss in velocity and accuracy, we didn't notice anything significant at our test shooting ranges of 75 to 100 yards.

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Stealth Bomber

(Continued from page 56)

attack remaining Soviet targets after an initial nuclear exchange, is unnecessary, and that in any event the B-2 won't be able to carry out that mission because the Soviets possess radars that can track the B-2.

The B-2 is the most expensive aircraft ever built. Originally the program was scheduled to produce 132 aircraft at a cost (in 1981 dollars) of between \$40 billion and \$44 billion, or between \$450 million to \$520 million per plane. Because of pressure to cut the military budget and a lessening Soviet threat, Secretary of Defense Dick Cheney recently announced that he would reduce the total number of B-2s the Air Force would purchase to 75. That, he says, is the minimum number of aircraft required to carry out the mission. In current dollars the planned cut would lower the program cost from \$75.4 billion to \$62 billion, or about \$800 million per plane.

The Air Force notes that the overall program cost of the \$62 billion includes the cost of research and development — approximately \$15 billion, spare parts, crew training, and construction of new air bases with special security for the B-2. They say that the true cost of the plane, the "flyaway cost" which is the cost of each individual aircraft alone, will be in the neighborhood of \$270 million each, or only about 20 percent more than the cost of the B-1B.

Proponents of the B-2 say that while the aircraft is expensive it presents a counter to the massive Soviet air defense system — the largest in the world. That system, according to Pentagon experts, is comprised of 2,250 fighters, 9,000 anti-aircraft missile batteries, and 7,000 radars. Gen. Bernard Randolph who heads the Air Force Systems Command and is in charge of the Stealth bomber program notes that, "we cannot match the Soviets in numbers...So we find things that improve our ability to maintain deterrence in a remarkable way — and the B-2 is a remarkable airplane."

Senator Sam Nunn, a Democrat and B-2 supporter, says that the B-2 is worth the price because of what it would cost the Soviets to counter it. "They would have to revamp their entire radar and fire control system...They are going to have to spend several hundred billion dollars — far more than the cost of the B-2 — to defend against it."

Opponents of the B-2 also question

the aircraft's ability to perform what they see as a questionable mission. Groups such as the Union of Concerned Scientists and the Federation of American Scientists say that if the B-2 works as advertised, which they doubt, it will serve to heighten tensions because its stealthiness would make it an ideal first strike weapon.

The Air Force answers this point by saying that the planned fleet of B-2s would be nowhere near large enough to carry out a successful first strike. The B-2, they say, is meant to re-enforce the doctrine of deterrence by putting at risk the underground command posts and bunkers which would house the Soviet leadership in a nuclear war. The ability of the B-2 to threaten Soviet leadership coupled with its ability to hit mobile and silo-based nuclear missiles will serve to enhance deterrence, say the proponents of the B-2.

B-2 opponents contend that the same mission assigned to the B-2 could be performed at far less cost by unmanned cruise missiles.

The Air Force says that cruise missiles are not yet accurate enough to be used in place of a manned bomber for the type of mission assigned the B-2. Further, cruise missiles cannot be retargeted or take advantage of targets of opportunity once they are launched. Since their course and target are preprogrammed, cruise missiles would be of little value against mobile ICBMs which can quickly and randomly change their locations.

Air Force officials also cite the possibility of using the B-2 in a conventional role. General Randolph uses the U.S. raid on Libya to make this point. That raid, he says, required some 100 combat and support aircraft along with very detailed logistic planning. Also the refusal of some of our "allies" to allow U.S. planes into their airspace greatly complicated the mission. According to Randolph, "with precision munitions and one or two tankers, four B-2s could have done the same job from stateside bases... with greater tactical surprise and vastly less risk of life." Critics of the B-2 say the conventional role argument for the B-2 is nonsense, and that the U.S. would never risk a half billion dollar aircraft in such a role.

According to the Union of Concerned Scientists, the B-2 can be detected by certain types of radar — most notably

low frequency, long wave search radar such as the Soviet "Tall King" and "Spoon Rest" systems.

The Air Force concedes that the B-2 could probably be detected by this type of radar, but makes two points concerning this question. One, that these radar systems would be targeted and destroyed either during the initial nuclear exchange, or later, by B-1Bs firing cruise missiles designed to home in on them. Two, while the B-2s might be picked up by long range search radars, it would not be detected by the short wavelength, high frequency radars used by local fire control systems and aboard fighter aircraft and anti-aircraft missiles. Verne Orr, the former Secretary of the Air Force, summed up this point by saying: "The whole thrust of Stealth is to be able to get through the fire control radars, not the search radars."

The final argument made by those who oppose the B-2 is that with the Soviet threat diminishing, and the concurrent collapse of the Warsaw Pact, the B-2 is just not necessary. Who, they ask, will we use it against?

That question of course, misses the point. The purpose of the B-2, and that of any strategic nuclear weapon, is deterrence — not use. The weapons serve their purpose by preventing the start of a war. If they have to be used they have failed in their primary mission.

While tensions with the Soviets are certainly decreasing, the hard, cold truth is that the Soviets remain the only power on earth capable of destroying the U.S. Despite all the glasnost and perestroika public relations coming from the Kremlin, not a single strategic nuclear weapon aimed at the U.S. has been decommissioned as of this writing. In fact, in 1989 while the U.S. produced just 12 new ICBMs, the Soviets produced 140.

In the end, the question of whether or not we need the B-2 comes down to competing philosophies on how best to defend this nation and insure peace. Do we trust the peace to arms control negotiations and the fortunes — and stated good intentions — of Mikhail Gorbachev? Or do we continue on the course started 45 years ago, a course which seems to have led to victory in the Cold War, a course based primarily on the concept of "peace through strength"? ●

Survival Guide Index 1990

Survival Guide Index 1990

The following is an index to articles covering the 1990 year. The articles are grouped in the same format as our current Table of Contents. The years 1982 - 1985 were listed in the April 1990 issue. The years 1986 - 1989 were listed in the May 1990 issue. — The Editors

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P85 Pistols

(Continued from page 52)



Sights have high visibility white dot inserts. Rear sight is drift adjustable for windage.



The P85 can be purchased with optional locking black plastic case with extra magazine and magazine reloader.



Takedown for inspection and cleaning takes seconds and requires no tools.



The ambidextrous safety/decocking lever, when lowered fully, blocks firing pin and hammer and disengages the trigger while simultaneously lowering the hammer.

By the time you read this article, Ruger expects to be producing a new decocking-only version of the P85 which eliminates the safety, a feature preferred by many police departments because there is no possibility of a delay in bringing the gun into action, as there could be if the user should forget to thumb off the safety.

The P85 has essentially fixed sights with high visibility white dot inserts, front and rear. The rear square notch sight can be drift adjusted for windage if desired. At present no other sights are available for these pistols.

The strongly curved trigger aids in double-action firing and the oversize trigger guard permits firing with a gloved finger as well as being shaped to accommodate a two-hand hold on the weapon. A lanyard loop provides security for carrying in the field or for police use.

The P85 is designed to fire all commercial loads of 9 mm NATO ammunition, including high velocity and hollow point loads with brass, aluminum or steel cases. The open top slide configuration minimizes jamming and facilitates clearing of any malfunctions that do occur.

Test Shooting — After a couple of earlier brief shooting sessions to get acquainted with the guns, we tried out our P85s with five types of 9 mm ammo at a public shooting area where we were free to use rapid fire as well as slow aimed fire at targets 15 to about 30 yards from us. Ammunition used was Winchester 115-grain Silver-tip hollow points, Remington 115-grain jacketed hollow points, American Eagle 115-grain full metal jacket, Miwall 124-grain full metal jacket and Chinese Norinco 124-grain full metal jacket. We did not bench rest test shoot these guns during any of our shooting sessions, but used them firing quickly and with slow aimed fire with one and two hand holds the way they would likely be used in the field.

Our impressions are that the P85s are not as inherently accurate as more expensive nines we've shot, such as the SIGs or Glocks, and you have to get used to how the P85s fire and how to aim them. Since you can't do much in the way of adjusting the sights you need to adjust your aim to make the bullets go where you want. Once you get used to this and to the particular cartridge you're firing, though, you can hit most anything you aim at. Overall, we had better accuracy with the hollow points we used, and while

our test shooting accuracy was not of the pinpoint type, it was certainly adequate to get the job done.

As you might expect, we ran out of our five boxes of ammo before we had perfected our technique with the P85s, but there was more than enough ammo to convince us that these guns work very well and are pretty accurate. We did not experience so much as one jam or other malfunction of any type during test shooting.

If I had any beef with the P85 it would probably be the minor difficulty I had with finding the point of aim for a given type of ammo and distance to target, but then I don't tend to be that picky. As with any firearm, you have to work with it to find out its strengths and weaknesses and peculiarities. We found these guns to be rugged, simple to operate, very reliable and quite accurate. ●

P85 Pistol: Tech Specs

Caliber	9 mm NATO
Action/operation	semiauto/recoil
Lengths:	
Overall	7 7/8 inches
Barrel	4 1/2 inches
Sight radius	5 3/4 inches
Height	5 3/4 inches
Width	1 1/2 inches
Magazine capacity	15 rds
Finish	matte black, stainless
Sights	fixed front blade, drift adj. rear square notch, with white dots
Weight with empty mag	2 lbs., 1 oz. (either finish)
Price, suggested	\$357.50 or \$390.50 w/locking plastic case (black finish); \$397.50 or \$430.50 w/locking plastic case (stainless)
Manufacturer	Sturm, Ruger & Co., Inc. Lacey Place Southport, CT 06490 (203) 259-7843

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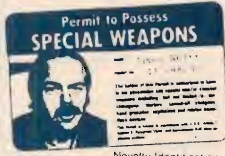
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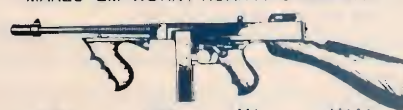
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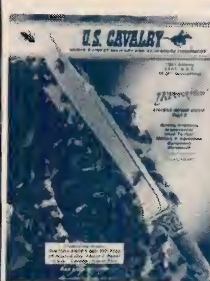
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Advanced Medical Equipment

The article "Advanced Medical Equipment" in the August 1990 issue, while well-intentioned, elicits some very serious objections. The author, Mr. Brasic, has stepped over the bounds of his training and expertise in several areas and has given some potentially dangerous misinformation. Perhaps if he just said, "This is some of the equipment and medication used by experts after a great deal of appropriate education and training," the article would not be so disturbing. As a Registered Respiratory Therapist who specializes in critical care, I can attest to the dangerous and even fatal consequences of respiratory equipment that has been used improperly by well-meaning persons who have had superficial or no training in their proper applications.

Tom Burns, RRT
Acton, California

What you say the author should have done is exactly what he did. In his third paragraph he states: "This article deals with some equipment that the trained medic may wish to acquire, and a rough outline for the usage of such equipment. Untrained individuals should not attempt to use this equipment."

Patrick Purdy

I just read your Sept. 1990 issue and the article about Patrick Purdy. It was OK as far as it went. But there was no mention of the fact that Purdy was being treated with the prescription drug Prozac, as were Wesbecker and many others of the media-identified "mass killers." Please include this information in your magazine.

R. Albach
Portland, Oregon

The autopsy report on Purdy found there were no drugs in his system except nicotine and caffeine. Although we have read of Purdy's being treated with Prozac, there was no mention of it in the California attorney general's report. As we learn more about this matter we will discuss it further.

ASG TV?

Have you ever considered doing a television type series based on your

magazine? I know the networks probably wouldn't show it, but there are plenty of cable stations looking for programming.

Frederick Smith
Framingham, Massachusetts

A television version of ASG would be great and we'd like very much to work with the producers of such a program. However, so many of the people in the media are so brainwashed into believing the lies and hatreds of the anti-gun-ownership movement, and so many are indeed part of that movement, we think the vast majority of them are incapable of relating with anything but stupidity and hostility toward a magazine such as ours. The main agenda of this majority in the media is to promote big government and socialism, not freedom and independent living for individual citizens.

Useful Information

In a magazine market filled with articles on Madonna and Donald Trump, it sure is refreshing to see one that has useful articles. Those of us who live on the New Madrid Fault are facing the very real possibility of a major earthquake before the year 2,000, a quake that could sever transportation and communication lines for days — perhaps even weeks or longer. As teachers in two rural schools, this is something that concerns us both. Neither of us relishes the idea of being isolated at our separate schools with hundreds of panicked students and no means of reaching each other across the miles of rugged hills and woodlands that lie between our schools. We needed a guide to emergency preparedness and wilderness survival. Then we discovered T.R. Zimmermann's article "Pocket Survival" which is simply the best collection of common sense survival information available. This, combined with Fred Bouwman's article "Insect Repellents" and your informative survival supply advertisements helped these two educators do their earthquake preparedness homework.

Jeff and Sandy Jones
Bufordville, Missouri

The Ban Craze

In your September 1990 "To The Point", Mr. Benson suggested we should

outlaw fast cars, alcohol and tobacco, but why stop there? We should also outlaw motorcycles, three and four wheeled ATVs, snowmobiles, privately owned boats and airplanes and many more things. The reason I bring this up is because there is a growing faction of people who would give up a good number or all of their Constitutional rights to the government for it to totally keep them safe from everything. I feel sorry for these people, because they are slaves to their fear and are very easily manipulated because of it. Should we let these people take away the rights of all the rest of us? I don't think so!

Marc S. Dalla Costa
Klamath Falls, Oregon

I quite agree with your editorial in the September issue of *American Survival Guide* which suggests that if we are to ban firearms because they are sometimes used to kill people, then other deadly instrumentalities such as automobiles, tobacco, alcohol, etc., should be banned. However I am very surprised that you overlooked one of the greatest causes of violence in our society — televised programming. Dr. Centerwall's landmark study "Exposure to Television as a Risk Factor for Violence" which was published in the April 1989 issue of the *American Journal of Epidemiology*, attributed 50 percent of our present homicides to the insidious influence of televised violence! Certainly, if it spared even one life, would not prohibiting violence in their broadcasts be a small price for ABC, NBC and CBS to pay? The next time their local TV station broadcasts an editorial calling for greater regulation of or prohibition of private ownership of firearms, I suggest your readers respond with a letter applauding the station management's desire to reduce the level of violence in this country. Further state that if the management is really sincere, they can eliminate the greatest cause of violence by refusing to broadcast all violent programming. Enclose a copy of Dr. Centerwall's study to prove your case. (Reprints available \$1 each from Dr. Brandon S. Centerwall, 611 Third Avenue East, Seattle, WA 98112). The statement "Retain in public file for public review" should appear in the bottom left hand corner of the letter and a copy forwarded to the Federal Communications Commission at 1919 M Street, NW Washington D.C. 20554.

Mike Hoff
San Diego, California ●

Confront The Conspiracy!

By Raymond Steele

'The time has long since come to raise the consciousness of the average gun-owning American patriot to the all-encompassing power of the media over the public mind' . . .



Thomas Jefferson was a key visionary behind the design of our constitutional republic. He saw the role of the media as servant of the people, to insure the full diffusion of knowledge. Today, the men and women in the media wield incredible raw power to shape public opinion, and they use that power for mischief. Today's press is, in effect, an immensely powerful fourth branch of government which is totally unregulated. The checks and balances applying to the other three branches of government have no effect upon the media.

The power of the media is awesome. They control the past by flooding the present with misinformation, myths and revisionist views of American history. When these go unchallenged in the arena of public opinion, their power to brainwash is near-absolute. And in modern America, the brainwashed do not know they are

brainwashed.

The time has long since come to raise the consciousness of the average gun-owning American patriot as to the all-encompassing power of the media over the public mind. We can no longer afford to shrug our shoulders when confronted with vicious media anti-gun propaganda and say "nobody believes that pack of liars." Yes, many people *do* believe that pack of liars!

Many survival-oriented people who read ASG have probably delved into our somewhat hidden past, to find out what the Founding Fathers of our American constitutional government really thought about guns and the right of common people to keep and bear them. Some revealing quotes:

"No freeman shall ever be debarred the use of arms" — Thomas Jefferson.

"The Constitution shall never be construed . . . to prevent the people of the United States who are peaceable citizens from keeping their own arms" — Alexander Hamilton.

"To preserve liberty it is essential that the whole body of people always possess arms and be taught alike, especially when young, how to use them" — Richard Henry Lee

Does that sound much like the absurd triviality and obscene nonsense we've been force-fed by the media for the last 25 years? Hardly. Space would fail me to tell of the gun-hate mythomania spit out by the media on a regular basis. And not only do they spit out their lies like a poisonous venom, they spit on our Founding Fathers, on

our history, and they spit on you and me. And then they tell us it's only rain.

If the anger I feel over this non-stop umbrage is any gauge, the good law-abiding gun owners of America are in a white-hot fury. I mean to say, and I think to speak for many, I'm mad as a hornet, and I intend to do something about it! I'm not going to take it anymore!

So what am I proposing — that we take up arms against the media? No. There is a far more sophisticated and highly effective means available to us at this point.

You see, we don't know our power. Or rather, our money-power. We're stronger than we think. We have so much money-power, that if we were to organize and use it in a properly directed manner, we could change the political landscape overnight. I'm going to show you how, but first we need to look at what one very important man, Thomas Jefferson, the Pen of the Revolution, author of the Declaration of Independence, and our third president, thought of the press of his day.

For the sake of brevity and the distillation of clear thought, I'm going to be using quotations from his addresses and writing (emphasis where added mine).

First, he stated that "Man must be governed by reason and truth. Our first object should therefore be, to leave open to him all the avenues of truth."

He also said "Error of opinion may be tolerated where reason is left free to combat it."

"For we are not afraid . . . to tolerate error so long as reason is free to combat it."

"And finally, the truth is great and will prevail if she is left to herself; that she is proper and sufficient antagonist to error, and has nothing to fear from the conflict unless by *human interposition* disarmed of her natural weapons, **FREE ARGUMENT AND DEBATE**, errors ceasing to be dangerous when it is **FREELY PERMITTED TO CONTRADICT THEM.**"

In other words, Jefferson knew that when truth and error go head-to-head, truth always wins, provided, and this is the major proviso, truth is not disarmed of her natural weapons, which are free argument and debate. How did he say truth could be so disarmed? By *human interposition*. When people conspire to so dominate all public channels of communication so that all opposing views are either censored or effectively censored and ridiculed, truth has no chance. Error will pre-

vail, so said Thomas Jefferson.

"We are the press. You know our power. We fix all values. We set all standards. Your entire future depends on us" — Jean Giraudoux.

That's where we are today, American patriot. By virtue of near-total saturation, the media controls the past, present and future, and always, always, confuses the issues. Contrary to their mindless drivel, guns are not the problem, crime and drugs and roving gangs are. Guns are not the problem, lenient judges and weak laws are. Guns are not the problem, self-serving corrupt politicians are. Guns are not the problem, a hedonistic, pleasure-at-any-price society is. And sitting on top of it all is a media composed of clever manipulators and pathological liars.

How many debates have you ever won with tape over your mouth? Bound and gagged people don't have much to say. We thought we were free, you see, but the minute you open your mouth to spread truth, the camera pans away and the microphone shuts off. Or they show a brief sound bite with a liberal spin commentary, and all attempts at a spirited, *honest* public debate are lost.

"The first essence of journalism is to know that you want to know; the second, is to find out who will tell you" — John Gunther.

And the most revealing:

"Freedom of the press is guaranteed only to those who own one" — A.J. Liebling.

Time Magazine Editor Gloria Hammond sent out a letter last year to subscribers complaining about the vicious anti-gun bias replete on the pages of *Time*. Her letter said in part: "But the time for opinions on the dangers of gun availability is long since gone, replaced by overwhelming evidence that it represents a growing threat to public safety."

Are you as amazed as I am by that statement? *Time*, Inc. has decided, sitting in their mighty tower (of Babylon) in New York City, that all debate on the issue of gun availability must stop. Your opinion doesn't mean didly, unless it lines up with theirs. Talk about corrupt and drunk with power! They so control public debate that they can cut off the other side of the issue. Or didn't you know that?

Another example of media functioning as obscurantists when the information doesn't fit their evil agenda was demonstrated when CBS recently refused to allow an ad to run that solicited support for the U.S. Olympic

team! Their reason was that they refuse to broadcast anything that portrays shooting in a "favorable light." NBC also recently refused to run an NRA ad featuring spokesman Charlton Heston, presumably because they don't want the popular Mr. Heston associated with "evil guns" in the mind of the public. This is nothing short of media tyranny! Rather than providing the public with all information and letting us make up our own minds, they are overtly opposed to the spread of knowledge. It has actually become a part of their policy. Talk about a conspiracy! Talk about censorship!

Error only ceases to be dangerous when truth is freely permitted to contradict it. And where truth is throttled and not allowed to spread, error and finally tyranny fill the void.

Snake In The Grass — The Roman poet Virgil in his *Eclogues* used the Latin phrase *latet anguis in herba*, literally "A snake lies concealed in the grass," to point out hidden danger.

We have found our hidden danger, our snake in the grass. The grass is the print, sound and picture media we are exposed to daily, and the snake is the yellow journalism hidden therein.

So just what is yellow journalism? It is defined as inflammatory and irresponsible reporting by newspapers. The term came about during the 1890s when some American newspapers, especially those run by William Randolph Hearst, worked to incite hatred of Spain. This deliberate manipulation contributed to the start of Spanish-American War, thereby increasing circulation and profits.

According to other sources, the "yellow" came from the yellow ink used in printing the "Yellow Kid," a cartoon strip in the *New York World*, a paper known for its sensational, exploitative, distorted journalism done to attract readers.

In any case, the vital point about yellow journalism is the distortion of facts in utter disregard for truth, to achieve the self-serving ends of the publishers and/or editors. Whether those selfish ends are simply to sell more newspapers, or magazines, or to make a TV program popular, or if it's done for the more nefarious purpose of controlling public debate to achieve and maintain the hegemony of the political views of the speakers (read leftist, liberal journalists), it is all yellow journalism.

"As for the yellow newspapers — every country has its criminal classes,

and with us as in France, they have simply got into journalism as part of their professional evolution, and they must be got out" — William James.

The media is a public trust. But it is *owned* by a handful of men and women who don't like guns because of the freedom they represent. An armed populace keeps the people free, and that is a threat to their little empires. To maintain those empires they must manipulate and control and confuse.

"For a people who are FREE, and who mean to remain so, a well-organized and armed militia is their best security" — Jefferson.

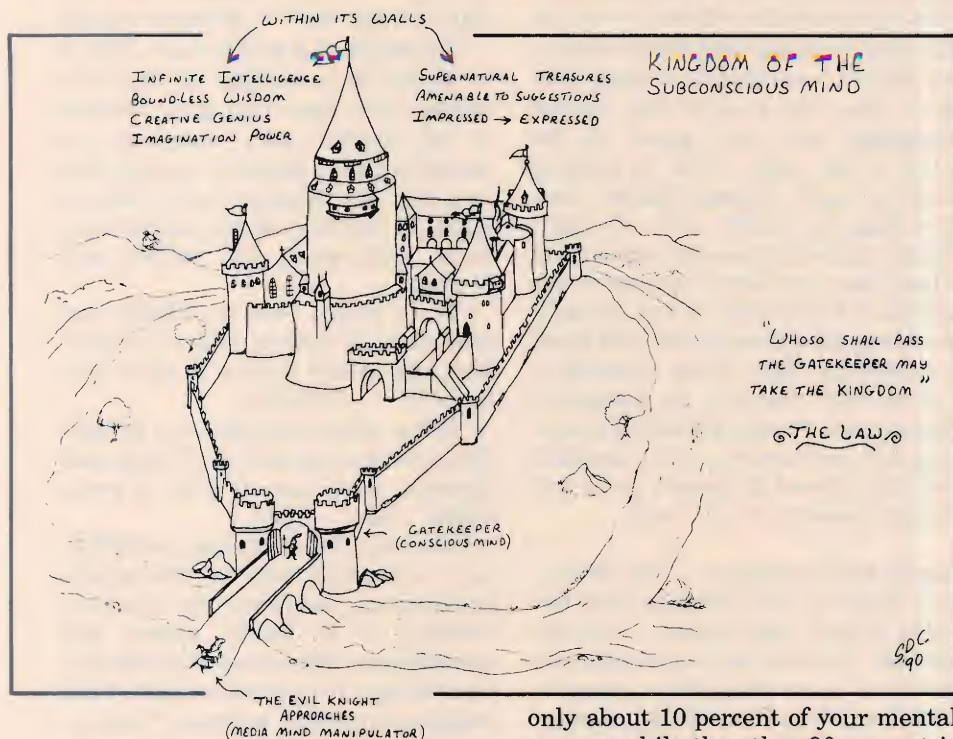
"Every citizen should be a soldier. This was the case with the Greeks and Romans, and must be that of every FREE state" — Ibid.

Since only armed citizens are FREE, they are anathemas to totalitarian government, and those who want the citizenry to be totally subject and subordinate to absolute state authority must disarm the citizen-soldiers. That explains the media madness. That explains the daily distortions of reality that are crammed into our minds and down our throats. The media quisling moguls want to share in the absolute control of the New American Police State, and so are all conspirators in this massive, Big Brother brainwashing program. They well know that William James, American psychologist, stated: "There is nothing so absurd that if you repeat it often enough, people will believe it."

To those who would refute what I say and suggest that the media is not involved in a conspiracy, and that in America it is only our votes for our elected representatives that ultimately count, forgive me if I laugh out loud.

In this Age of Information, you can control the very souls of people by controlling the information that goes into their heads! Never in human history have we been so bombarded and saturated with so much information in print, with sound and moving images, and with music, all subtly working together to achieve the ends of those who produce it. We are all persuaded by what we see and hear, many times involuntarily, and if you only hear one side of an argument, day-in and day-out, how can you possibly come to any other conclusion but the one the media brainwashers want you to come to? Brother, if they can sell new cars and beer and tacos with their silly commercials, they can sure sell the public on their gun-ban garbage. What goes

Confront The Conspiracy!



on in the collective American mind will manifest sooner or later at the voting booth, either as anti-gun sentiment or apathy by gun owners.

Jefferson was a man of great keenness, and he understood how brainwashing worked, even in his day. In 1786 he wrote in the *Virginia Act for Religious Freedom*:

"Well aware that the opinions and belief of men *depend not on their own will*, but FOLLOW INVOLUNTARILY the evidence proposed to their minds. . ."

Read that again and think about it. What a quality thought! They didn't call it brainwashing back then, but enlightened men and women knew about it. To restate, the evidence proposed to the mind tends to involuntarily subjugate the will of the person so involved. Your will is bent to the conclusions the evidence that fills your mind suggests, unless you are aware and consciously resist it. And how many people stir themselves out of their soul-sleep to have a regular reality check? It is a law of the human mind: That which is *impressed* on the subconscious, must be *expressed* sooner or later.

Clever Manipulators — Students of the mind tell us that your conscious mind is just the tip of the iceberg in relation to the full powers of your mind. The conscious part represents

only about 10 percent of your mental powers, while the other 90 percent is submerged into what is called the subconscious mind.

Since we live in an ordered universe, everything operates according to fixed laws. The human mind is no different. The conscious mind is the "watchman at the gate" to the deeper intelligence of the subconscious. The conscious part functions to protect your subconscious from false impressions. In other words, you can consciously reject wrong information and prevent it from entering your deeper mind.

The reason the conscious mind must screen information is because your subconscious mind is *amenable to suggestion*. This is one of the basic laws of mind: your subconscious does not make comparisons or contrasts, nor does it reason and think things out for itself — that is the job of your conscious mind. It merely reacts to the impressions you allow to pass through your conscious "gatekeeper." Again, your subconscious can think on its own, but it defers to and accepts the patterns of thought and mental imagery imposed on it by the judgement of your conscious mind.

William James, the father of American psychology, said that the power to move the world is in your subconscious mind. It is fed with hidden springs of infinite intelligence and boundless wisdom, and out of it flows life itself. So whatever you impress upon your subconscious mind, it will move heaven

and earth to bring to pass. What is impressed, good or bad, *must* be expressed. This is immutable law.

Many Americans understand little if anything about the interaction of the objective conscious mind with the subjective and very powerful subconscious mind. Can you now see what it means for millions of people to soak up *uncritically* all the myriad of thoughts and sounds and images that we are bombarded with daily? Once these powerful images are accepted by the collective subconscious, they become part of the thought-life of the public mind. For example, when people are shown over and over how "bad" semi-autos are, and they see continual revisitations of the Stockton Purdy crime scene, and they see AK-47s supposedly blowing apart watermelons, they begin to believe the mythomaniac conclusions drawn by the clever manipulators in the media.

It is this crass manipulation that gives the media so much power. The power is really in people themselves, of course, but since so few understand how it works (and maybe are a little lazy mentally), they uncritically accept the thoughts, opinions and conclusions of others without even realizing it. These thoughts then become the collective thoughts of the people, who then become hardened into their positions and thus *immune to reason*, and that's how you seduce a nation into giving up their constitutional rights.

Look at Washington, D.C. It's illegal to own so much as a stun gun, crime is rampant, yet people are prosecuted if they defend themselves, and guns are banned in clear defiance of the Second Amendment. In spite of this, very few voices are raised to throw off the hypocritical laws. Insanity prevails.

The media manipulators behind the nightly news know this. The various ad agencies also have become very sophisticated at cunningly feeding your subconscious potent images. They all know how it works, but the LAST ONE they want to be in the know is YOU, because once you learn how to protect your mind, they lose control over you.

(For those who want to add to their store of knowledge of this vital subject, I highly recommend the best-selling book *The Power of Your Subconscious Mind*, by Dr. Joseph Murphy, published in 1980 by Prentice Hall, Inc., Englewood Cliffs, New Jersey, 07632.) ●

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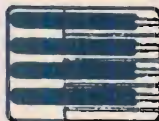
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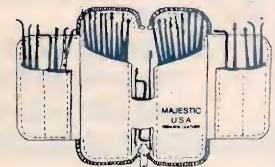
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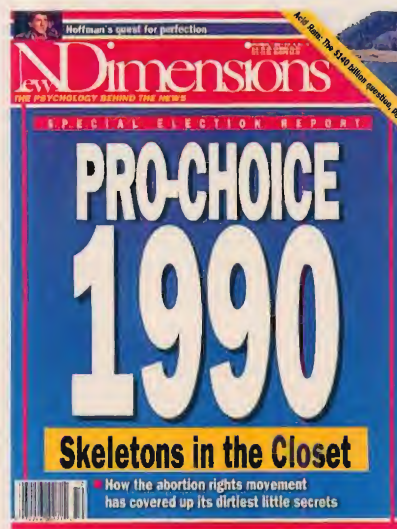
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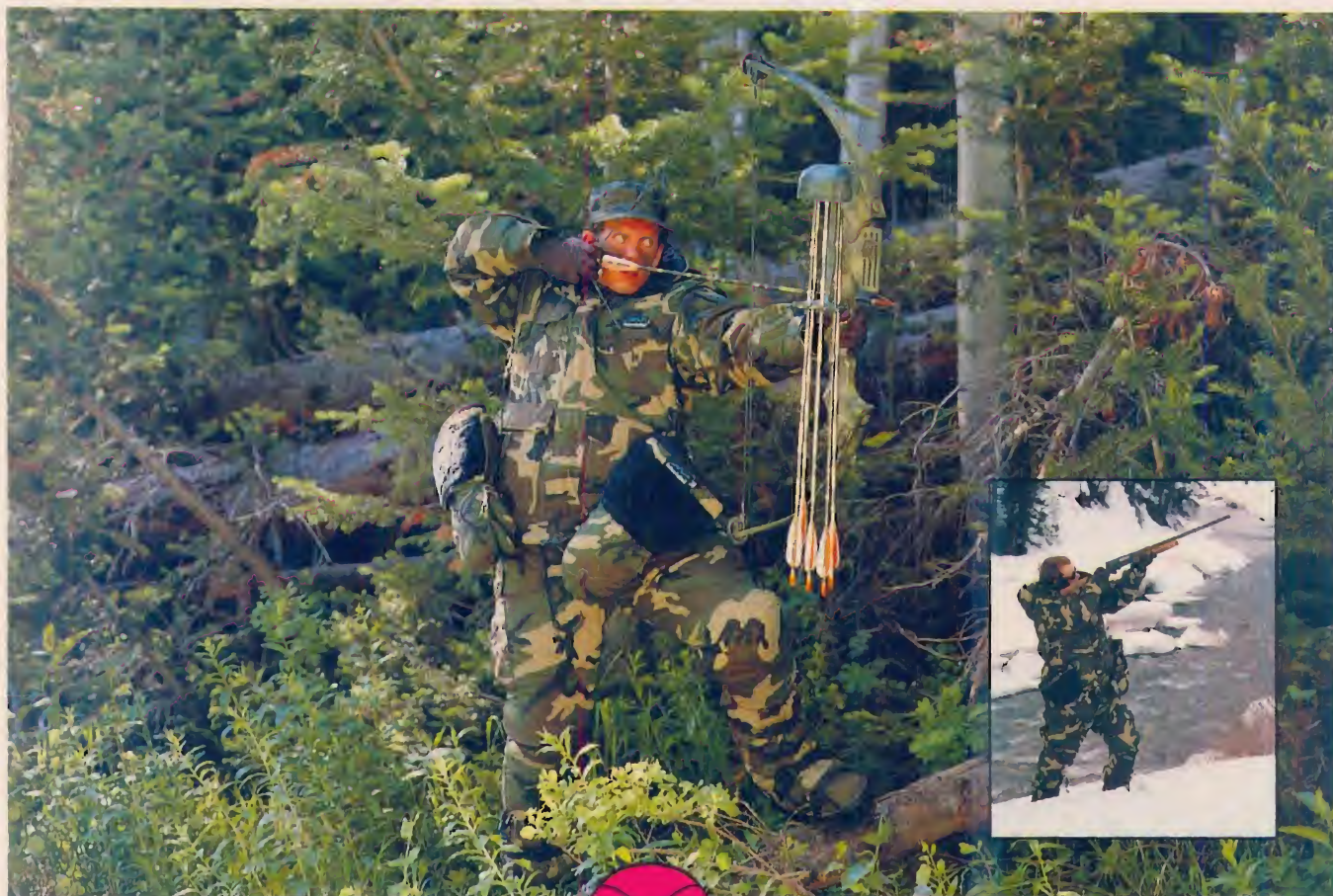
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